BLACK SWAN SUMMIT™ AUSTRALIA
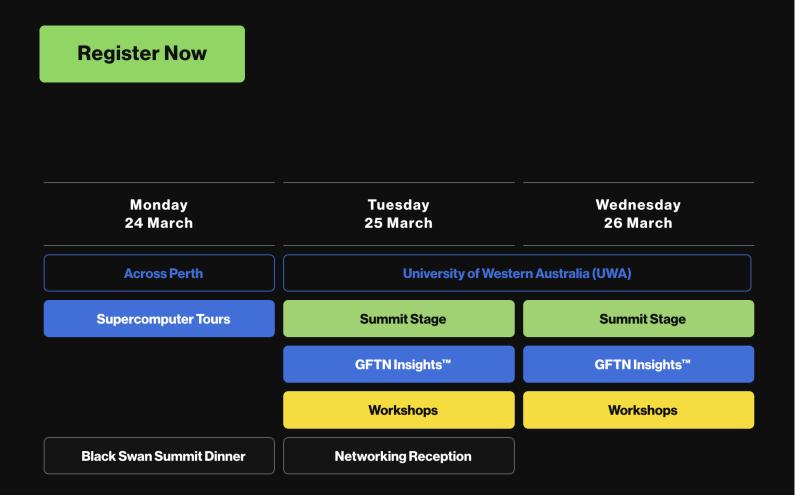
24–26 MAR 2025

Agenda

At the Edge of Tomorrow:
Machine, Money, and Humanity
24 - 26 March 2025 | Perth, Australia

A collision of philosophy, science, technology, finance and policy designed to provoke, inspire, and reshape paradigms.

Register Now

Monday 24 March	Tuesday 25 March	Wednesday 26 March
Across Perth	University of Western Australia (UWA)	
Supercomputer Tours	Summit Stage	Summit Stage
	GFTN Insights™	GFTN Insights™
	Workshops	Workshops
Black Swan Summit Dinner	Networking Reception	

Get Your Pass

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Supercomputer Tour

24 March 2025 | Monday
1:00pm - 4:00pm

Pawsey Supercomputing Research Centre

- Inside the Future of Supercomputing: Experience Setonix
    - One of the world's top ecofriendly supercomputers and
    - One of the Southern Hemisphere's most powerful high performance computing machines

DUG Technology

- Discover the innovation behind climate-positive, one of the world's largest high-performance computing data center infrastructures that will astonish you.

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Summit Stage

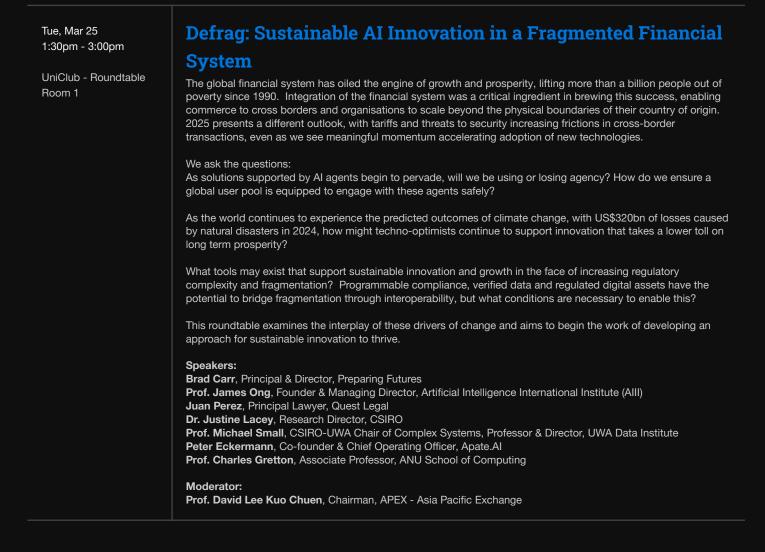|	
Tue, Mar 25 8:30am - 8:35am Winthrop Hall	### Welcome to the Black Swan Summit
Tue, Mar 25 8:35am - 8:45am Winthrop Hall	### First Nations Elder Welcome to the Country
Tue, Mar 25 8:45am - 8:55am Winthrop Hall	### Opening Keynote Watch this space for more information.
Tue, Mar 25 9:10am - 9:40am Winthrop Hall	### What it Means to be a Machine: An Interdisciplinary Perspective on the Future of Humanity-Machine Coexistence What does it mean to be a machine in a world increasingly shaped by intelligent, autonomous agents performing complex human skills? This panel challenges leaders to rethink the traditional view of technology as a mere tool, inviting the audience to consider how autonomous self-learning algorithms (Agent AI/AGI) in multi-sensory devices (IoT/Robots) perceive their roles and impact on productivity, business efficiency, governance, ethics, sustainability, and coexistence. This panel will address several critical challenges: 1. How do we define the rights and responsibilities of autonomous AI systems? 2. What governance structures are needed to regulate their actions? 3. How do we prepare for scenarios where AI CEOs or autonomous systems hold critical decision-making power? 4. Who governs, hires, or even retires machines that outperform humans in knowledge, productivity, and control over resources? Blending futuristic thinking with real-world implications, this session seeks to equip leaders with the insights needed to navigate the complex relationship between humanity and machines. **Speakers:** **Neal Cross**, Co-founder, PictureWealth **Dr. Justine Lacey**, Research Director, CSIRO
Tue, Mar 25 9:40am - 10:00am Winthrop Hall	### The Quantum Revolution is Here – Are You Ready? 2025 – the International Year of Quantum Science and Technology is not just to celebrate theory – quantum science is revolutionising industries from finance to mining, healthcare to energy. Quantum technologies are on the way to disrupt conventional computing, redefine cybersecurity, and open new possibilities we've only imagined. Are we prepared for the impact? This fireside chat with world-renowned quantum scientist Prof. Jingbo Wang will break down the significance of the quantum revolution, its immediate and long-term effects, and what leaders, businesses, and policymakers must do to stay ahead.

Tue, Mar 25 10:00am - 10:40am Winthrop Hall	## Money 2040: Rethinking Money in the Digital and Quantum Era How will web3 networks, tokenized assets, and quantum breakthroughs change the nature and functions of money? What happens when money is personalised and tokenized, with programmable features tailored to individual needs? How will quantum technologies redefine the security and trust underpinning global currencies? From Bitcoin's role as a store of value to the geopolitical trade implications of central bank digital currencies, the panel seeks to challenge the conventional perceptions of currency and value, examining money not just as a medium of exchange but as a form of information—personalised, programmable, and embedded into the fabric of communication systems. **Speakers:** **Antonio Alvarez Lorenzo**, Chief Compliance Officer, Crypto.com **Caroline Bowler**, Chief Executive Officer, BTC Markets **Effie Dimitropoulos**, Chief Executive Officer, AUDC Pty Ltd **Moderator:** **Dr. Mark Staples**, Chief Technology Officer, Digital Finance CRC
Tue, Mar 25 10:40am - 11:15am Winthrop Hall	## Payments of Tomorrow: AI, Inclusion & Borderless Transactions The payments landscape is undergoing a radical transformation. AI-driven innovations, real-time cross-border transactions, and inclusive financial systems are reshaping how value moves globally. This session explores the technologies redefining payments, the role of AI in financial inclusion, and the challenges of creating a truly borderless financial ecosystem. Join our speakers as they discuss how to future-proof payment infrastructure and ensure equitable access in an increasingly digital world. **Speakers:** **Mishal Ruparel**, Chief Commercial Officer, Banking Circle **Rajesh Sabari**, Chief Commercial, Telcoin **Moderator:** **Pat Patel**, Executive Director, Global Finance & Technology Network (GFTN)
Tue, Mar 25 11:15am - 11:30am Winthrop Hall	## Reengineering Finance: The Intersection of Programmability, AI and Blockchain Take a deep dive into programmable banking and its potential to unlock unprecedented control and automation in financial services. Learn how AI and blockchain are fusing to offer dynamic, custom-tailored financial products. With real-world examples, explore how these technologies are creating new opportunities for instant, secure transactions and radically changing the way businesses manage money and interact with customers. **Speaker:** **Simon Vans-Colina**, Co-founder & Chief Technology Officer, Pave Bank
Tue, Mar 25 11:30am - 12:00pm Winthrop Hall	## The Future is Tokenized: Redefining Trust and Efficiency from Digital to Real-World Assets This panel explores the transformative potential of tokenization as both a disruptive force and a growth enabler. Panellists examine lessons learned from digital asset technologies, regulations, and adoption to anticipate the risks and the broader opportunities of Real-World Asset Tokenization (RWAT) across sectors. **Speaker:** **Dr. Sabrina Tachdjian**, Director, Fintech and Payments, The HBAR Foundation

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Tuesday, 25 March 2025

Insights Forum

Tue, Mar 25
1:30pm - 3:00pm

UniClub - Roundtable
Room 1

Defrag: Sustainable AI Innovation in a Fragmented Financial System

The global financial system has oiled the engine of growth and prosperity, lifting more than a billion people out of poverty since 1990. Integration of the financial system was a critical ingredient in brewing this success, enabling commerce to cross borders and organisations to scale beyond the physical boundaries of their country of origin. 2025 presents a different outlook, with tariffs and threats to security increasing frictions in cross-border transactions, even as we see meaningful momentum accelerating adoption of new technologies.

We ask the questions:
As solutions supported by AI agents begin to pervade, will we be using or losing agency? How do we ensure a global user pool is equipped to engage with these agents safely?

As the world continues to experience the predicted outcomes of climate change, with US$320bn of losses caused by natural disasters in 2024, how might techno-optimists continue to support innovation that takes a lower toll on long term prosperity?

What tools may exist that support sustainable innovation and growth in the face of increasing regulatory complexity and fragmentation? Programmable compliance, verified data and regulated digital assets have the potential to bridge fragmentation through interoperability, but what conditions are necessary to enable this?

This roundtable examines the interplay of these drivers of change and aims to begin the work of developing an approach for sustainable innovation to thrive.

Speakers:
Brad Carr, Principal & Director, Preparing Futures
Prof. James Ong, Founder & Managing Director, Artificial Intelligence International Institute (AIII)
Juan Perez, Principal Lawyer, Quest Legal
Dr. Justine Lacey, Research Director, CSIRO
Prof. Michael Small, CSIRO-UWA Chair of Complex Systems, Professor & Director, UWA Data Institute
Peter Eckermann, Co-founder & Chief Operating Officer, Apate.AI
Prof. Charles Gretton, Associate Professor, ANU School of Computing

Moderator:
Prof. David Lee Kuo Chuen, Chairman, APEX - Asia Pacific Exchange

Tue, Mar 25
3:30pm - 5:00pm

UniClub - Roundtable Room 2

Standing on the Shoulders of Giants: Future Models of Value

Economic value, the benefit derived from a good or service, and utility, in the economic sense of the worth of a good or service, have long underpinned financial markets. Yet holistic models recognising the complexity of today's existence are few and far between. Maslow's hierarchy established physiological needs as the very foundation of human requirements; the baseline from which one may experience utility and derive value. These needs for food, water, shelter, rest and health directly relate to SDGs 2 Zero Hunger, 6 Clean Water & Sanitation, 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities, and 3 Good Health & Well Being.

The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2024 confirm that - despite years of ongoing global prosperity - hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition remain prevalent. Billions still go without safe drinking water. There is a deepening global slum crisis, even as urban sprawl stresses the environment. Progress towards universal health coverage has slowed, leaving billions without care and subject to crippling costs, exacerbated by a shrinking workforce that struggles to meet the increasing demands of an ageing population.

This roundtable asks the question, in a world where basic needs are not being met for many, how might we create and express value differently? What are the measures that matter and how might we incentivise growth that serves humanity and does not enslave it?

Join this interactive session with expert speakers from the fields of finance, technology and health, as they bring fresh perspectives of value.

Speakers:
Dan Jovevski, Founder & Chief Executive Officer, WeMoney
Dr. Mark Staples, Chief Technology Officer, Digital Finance CRC
Rajesh Sabari, Chief Commercial, Telcoin

Moderators:
Stuart Thornton, Founding Member, British Tech Advisors (B.TA)
Daisy Ashworth, Coordinator, Communities for Children, Communicare

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Tue, Mar 25
3:30pm - 5:00pm

UniClub - Roundtable Room 1

Come As You Are: A Vision of Accessible, Inclusive Digital Trade

Despite the Global South experiencing strong economic growth in recent years, it has been unable to bridge the gap to the Global North. A key driver of economic growth remains global trade, which is increasingly digitalising. This presents both an opportunity and a risk for developing economies, who may benefit from the adoption of digital standards to facilitate trade, but risk being further left behind should the digital divide widen.

While the resource-rich Global South may benefit from demand for raw materials to fuel the AI revolution, the ability of the Global South to reap the benefits of AI solutions and investment remains limited due to poor infrastructure on the ground. Already, the Global South has started to respond to the challenges of developed-economy led standards and practices, increasing trade between peers even as they invest in digitisation, with 25% of global trade in goods being South-South while 21% is South-North.

How might systems adapt to offer the Global South the opportunity to keep up as trade adapts to new practices driven by technology developments? What can the Global South do to secure sustainable success?

This roundtable considers different models for convergence that respect individual economy needs and readiness, allowing for growth even as they transform.

Speakers:
Yuki Aizawa, Women in Tech Global Movement APAC Director, Women in Tech
Jeremy Tan, Group Chief Executive Officer, Liquid Group

Summit Stage

Wed, Mar 26 9:00am - 9:05am Winthrop Hall	**Welcome Back to the Black Swan Summit**
Wed, Mar 26 9:15am - 9:35am Winthrop Hall	**Keynote: The Age of Positive Uncertainty** We live in an era marked by uncertainty, characterised by the convergence of the climate crisis, financial volatility and black swan events. Amidst this chaos, is technology the key that can help us chart a course forward for a more sustainable future, transforming disruptions into opportunities?
Wed, Mar 26 9:35am - 10:20am Winthrop Hall	**Future Proofers: Powering 2050 – Recharging the Energy Supply** This panel reimagines the future energy landscape, drawing references from Australian use cases. Leveraging emerging technologies and alternative energy sources, Australia is well positioned to emerge as a global front-runner in clean energy supply chain. The session will explore cutting-edge energy transition innovations, and how they align with the ambitious energy strategies to support the region's booming digital and industrial sectors. Challenging conventional energy supply practices, this discussion provides evidence-based comparative insights to a range of disruptive energy sources from solar, wind, waves, hydrogen, to the potential of nuclear fusion—a possible "technological black swan"—and their roles in fuelling economic transformation, growth, and global decarbonisation. **Speakers:** **Dr. Warren McKenzie**, Founder & Managing Director, HB11 Energy **Scott Clements**, Partner, Tribeca Capital **Takaya Taguchi**, Co-founder & Chief Executive Officer, Helical Fusion **Moderator:** **Prof. Peta Ashworth**, Director, Curtin Institute for Energy Transition
Wed, Mar 26 10:20am - 10:50am Winthrop Hall	**Future Shapers: When Cloud Gets Clouded – Reconciling Processing Supremacy with Energy Resilience** The world today harnesses an unprecedented level of computational capacity to power a wide range of applications, from large-language-model trainings to artificial intelligence-enhanced industrial operations. This requires staggering amount of energy, leaving behind substantial carbon footprints and increasingly risks compromising such technological gains with its unsustainably hefty environmental "price tags". This session discusses the pre-emptive ways forward to fuel the sustainable computing development, presenting fresh perspectives on investment, innovation and impact from top financiers, infrastructure providers, quantum experts and policy minds. The discussion will also explore Australia's transformative potential to become a hub for resilient High-Performance Computing (HPC) and climate-aligned data centres—critical infrastructure for the 21st-century digital economy. **Speaker:** **Kok-Chye Ong**, Managing Director & Head of Data Centre Platform, Asia (Ex-China), Gaw Capital **Moderator:** **Aditi Subramanya**, Partner Engagement Manager, Pawsey Supercomputing Research Center

Wed, Mar 26 10:50am - 11:20am Winthrop Hall	## Redefining Value: Investing in the Invisible Forces of Transformation Beyond the mechanics of capital allocation, this panel explores the profound shifts in value creation and economic paradigms driven by technologies like AI, blockchain, quantum computing, and climate tech. Rather than treating these technologies as mere investment opportunities, this session challenges investors to consider their roles as architects of a sustainable digital economy, where value is increasingly tied to intangible assets, decentralised networks, and machine intelligence. How do we invest in technologies that not only disrupt industries but also redefine what it means to build, own, and share value in a hyperconnected, intelligent world? **Speakers:** **Brad Hill**, Venture Partner, Pacific Channel **Shane Chesson**, Founder, General Partner, Openspace Ventures Pte Ltd **Moderator:** **Rebecca Martin**, Advisor, Global Finance & Technology Network (GFTN)
Wed, Mar 26 11:20am - 12:00pm Winthrop Hall	## Futureproofing the Digital Frontier: Bridging Technology and Policy for a Safer Future As data, systems, and economies become more interconnected, traditional security approaches face inherent limitations. This panel dives into the critical intersection of technical innovations and regulatory frameworks, highlighting how these two often siloed domains can inform and enhance one another. From the rise of post-quantum cryptography to the potential of blockchain to decentralise trust, technologists are pushing the boundaries of what is possible in securing the digital landscape. At the same time, policymakers are addressing the challenges of regulating a digital world that transcends borders and jurisdictions. This session seeks to bridge these perspectives, fostering a dialogue that examines how innovative technologies and progressive regulations can converge to protect people and businesses in an increasingly complex environment. **Speakers:** **Prof. Heng Wang**, Professor, Singapore Management University **Brendan Maggs**, Chief Learning Officer, Humbli **Moderator:** **Peter Deans**, Board Member, The RegTech Association

Get Your Pass

Wednesday, 26 March 2025

Get Your Pass

Insights Forum

Wed, Mar 26
1:30pm - 3:00pm

UniClub - Roundtable
Room 1

There's a Token for That: Exchanging Value in Modern Times

The financial world has been experimenting with the tokenisation of financial assts for some time. The Monetary Authority of Singapore's Project Guardian has seen more than 15 industry trials conducted in six currencies across various products. With the Bank of England and other central banks enabling their Real Time Gross Settlement systems to accommodate distributed ledger technology infrastructure, there is no denying the inevitability of a rise in these technologies. However, the trials and use cases that have seen the most investment to date have largely offered process optimisation opportunities, with few examples truly leveraging the potential of the technology to solve for transdisciplinary, systemic challenges.

This roundtable will consider the potential of real-world asset tokenisation to transform handling of physical assets as well as financial. It will delve into how on and off-ramping of these assets might operate and what protections need to be in place to manage these?   What would a legal framework for mediation and arbitration to support the adoption of these representations of real-world assets need to look like?

It will also consider the applicability of these tokens to improve liquidity and trust in practices like collateralisation, securities financing, and emergent asset classes like the carbon markets.

Speakers:
Amy-Rose Goodey, Chief Executive Officer, Digital Economy Council of Australia (DECA)
Dr. Sabrina Tachdjian, Director, Fintech and Payments, The HBAR Foundation

Moderator:
Dr. Rhys Bollen, Senior Executive Leader, Digital Assets, Australian Securities and Investments Commission

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Wed, Mar 26
1:30pm - 3:00pm

UniClub - Roundtable
Room 2

The Role of RegTech in a Rapidly Changing World

Regulatory technology supports organisations in navigating regulation as they conduct business around the world. As the pace of regulatory changes appears to quicken, this roundtable asks what is needed to drive progress in the field, so that businesses may continue to grow without compromising on their regulatory obligations. It will consider the challenges faced by the industry and what opportunities this may present for entrepreneurship and innovation. It will examine the new technologies that are changing the shape of regulation and compliance, delving into what regulators, institutions, and technology companies thinking and reacting to? What is on the horizon?

This roundtable will set the scene using regulatory insights from the RegTech Associtation's annual research. These include how financial institutions are considering their risks and opportunities, the rise of the consumer protection and inclusion, and fraud and scams entering the mainstream financial crime family, Our expert speakers will consider the readiness of global supervisors, institutions and their tools in managing emerging risks to consumers.

Topics that might be discussed include:
· Key global trends
· AI and scam sophistication
· Data protection
· Privacy
· Cyber
· Climate and sustainability risks

Speaker:
Peter Eckermann, Co-founder & Chief Operating Officer, Apate.AI

Moderator:
Peter Deans, Board Member, The RegTech Association

Get Your Pass

Wed, Mar 26
3:30pm - 5:00pm

UniClub - Roundtable
Room 1

From Silos to Synergy: A Roadmap for Transformative Energy Systems

The energy transition is ultimately a challenge of systemic alignment. Finance provides the capital to develop and deploy transformative technologies, policy creates the enabling conditions for their success, and technology drives the innovation necessary to reimagine systems. When these pillars operate in harmony, they form a self-reinforcing cycle.

This discussion is one of many that seeks to move past surface-level conversations and delve into the systemic challenges that must be addressed to unlock the potential of transformative technologies. The goal is to create a roadmap that not only accelerates the energy transition but also ensures it is equitable, resilient, and future-ready. The energy systems of 2050 will not emerge organically, they will be built through deliberate, collaborative effort across all three pillars of progress.

Speakers:
Dr. Warren McKenzie, Founder & Managing Director, HB11 Energy
Prof. Heng Wang, Professor, Singapore Management University
Nicole Yazbek-Martin, Executive Manager, Sustainability Standards and Practice, Australian Sustainable Finance Institute
Takaya Taguchi, Co-founder & Chief Executive Officer, Helical Fusion

Moderator:
Prof. Peta Ashworth, Director, Curtin Institute for Energy Transition

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Wed, Mar 26
3:30pm - 5:00pm

UniClub - Roundtable
Room 2

From Security to Continuity: Cyber & Resilience at the Cusp of Quantum

2024 saw record instances of cyber-attacks and widespread outages driven by user behaviours and software updates, impacting widely-used providers. This shone a spotlight on the need for ever more sophisticated approaches to ensure continuity of service. Emerging approaches include zero-trust architecture with its principles of continuous verification and "never trust, always verify", multi-factor authentication and quantum-safe practices. Questions playing on the mind of CISOs include, how do we protect ourselves from the humans in the loop?

This session considers approaches for corporate readiness, how company leadership should support organisational preparedness for these accelerating technologies, with a view to recommending an approach for companies to determine their best course of action to ensure continuity.

Speakers:
Amy-Rose Goodey, Chief Executive Officer, Digital Economy Council of Australia (DECA)
Prof. James Ong, Founder & Managing Director, Artificial Intelligence International Institute (AIII)
Piers Cracknell, General Manager Australia, BC Payments Australia Pty Ltd
Dr. Justine Lacey, Research Director, CSIRO
Jag Foo, Partner, Safeheron

Moderator:
Emma O'Neil, Director, CyberWest Hub

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Organised by

The Global Finance & Technology Network (GFTN) is a not-for-profit organisation established by the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) in 2024 to harness technology and foster innovation for more efficient, resilient, and inclusive financial ecosystems through global partnerships.

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