

## **Rural Studies Study Group Report for 2007-2008**

Over the last year, the key activities of the Rural Studies Group have been run in conjunction with the annual IAG conferences.

In July 2007 the Rural Studies Group hosted three specialist paper sessions at the 2007 IAG conference in Melbourne. These paper sessions attracted a number of well-known Australian academics and subsequently attracted a large audience.

At the July 2007 conference the Rural Studies Group held its annual meeting. At the meeting forthcoming activities of members and the group were discussed and it was resolved that the group would again organise special papers sessions for the 2008 IAG conference.

In October 2007 members of the study group investigated opportunities for accessing some funding from the IAG to support a visiting speaker at the 2008 conference, or a mini-workshop. Due to lack of interest from members, these initiatives were not pursued. The Rural Studies Group is hosting two specialist paper sessions at the IAG conference in 2008. The Group will also meet to identify objectives for the coming years and to elect a new convener/ officers.

During 2007/2008 the group did not request or spend any funds from the IAG.

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