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Australian Property Research and Education Fund

Research Paper

Future-Proofing Property Education: Integrating Emerging Technologies to Meet Industry Expectations

Final Report Prepared For

Australian Property Research and Education Fund (APREF)

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Key Highlights

- **The Starting Point:** In early 2025, only 37% of Australian and 35% of international property programmes explicitly included AI or PropTech. This shows AI integration in property education was still at an early stage worldwide.
- **What Is Being Taught:** Programmes mainly teach established tools such as GIS, BIM, automated valuation models and data analytics. AI, machine learning, blockchain and digital twins are usually covered in theory rather than in practice.
- **What Industry Expects:** Employers want AI literacy, not programming skills. Graduates need to interpret data, check AI outputs, understand their limits and apply professional judgement.
- **The Barriers:** Programme leaders report limited room in the curriculum, low staff confidence in teaching AI, fast-changing technology and differences in where property programmes sit within universities.
- **The Way Forward:** The report recommends building academic capability, embedding AI literacy across existing subjects, clarifying assessment rules, working more closely with professional bodies and continuing to prioritise soft skills.

Link to full research paper - Click Here

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Author Profiles



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Professor Chyi Lin Lee is currently the Discipline Director of Construction Management and Property at the University of New South Wales. His expertise lies in property and housing research, with a focus on property investment.

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Sharon joined academia after completing her PhD in 2007. Her teaching interests include property valuation, property development and property management; and her primary research areas centre on higher education, corporate social responsibility and housing.



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Associate Professor Connie Susilawati is an expert in property economics at Queensland University of Technology (QUT). Her research focuses on sustainable property, human settlement, and infrastructure in both Australia and developing countries.

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Jason Zheng is a doctoral researcher at UNSW Sydney's School of Built Environment and a CFA charterholder. His research focuses on real estate finance, sustainability, and the role of market sentiment in shaping corporate ESG performance and investment outcomes.