This issue of JASSA includes important new research insights for practitioners on currency management and bank sustainability disclosure. It also contains a series of papers from the 16th Melbourne Money and Finance Conference.

The first paper, by Bin Li, Benjamin Liu, Robert Bianchi F Fin and Jen Je Su, examines the monthly seasonality of foreign exchange (FX) returns for eight major currencies (against the US dollar) from 1972 to 2010. It finds that five currencies exhibit significantly higher returns in the month of December and a significant reversal in January. With global FX daily spot transactions reaching US$4 trillion dollars, the authors note that these findings have important practical implications for currency hedgers, arbitrageurs and speculators.

The second, a study by Paul N. C. Tiong and R. N. Anantharaman, examines the sustainability disclosures of the three Australian banks which prepared their sustainability reports in compliance with the Global Reporting Initiative’s (GRI) G3 Sustainability Reporting Guidelines and Financial Services Sector Supplement. The authors suggest that although the three banks achieved the highest level of disclosure, there were several areas that needed improvement.

The remainder of this issue of the journal is devoted to papers from the 16th Melbourne Money and Finance Conference on Retail and Household Finance: Current Issues, which was held recently in Melbourne. An outline of these papers is provided in the introduction to that section of the journal. We thank both the sponsors of the conference and the authors for their contribution to this issue of JASSA.

Please note that the guidelines for submission are available at www.finsia.com and any comments on these or any previous articles in JASSA are also welcome at m.fahrer@finsia.com

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