

**WESTERN SYDNEY**  
UNIVERSITY



Institute for Culture  
and Society

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**Institute for Culture and Society**  
ANNUAL REVIEW



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Cover image: ICS researcher, Associate Professor Juan Francisco Salazar, pictured at the Centro Cultural Gabriela Mistral cultural centre in Santiago, Chile. Juan sits beside soft sculptures of Violeta Parra and Gabriela Mistral, two central figures in Chilean culture.

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# INTRODUCTION



Image taken by ICS Director Paul James of the construction site at Western Sydney's new One Parramatta Square campus in Parramatta CBD, New South Wales, Australia.

## ICS Director's Foreword



The year 2017 was a difficult year for our Institute, and we are still feeling the effects. How many directors' reports start with such a sentence? More commonly, we read of magnificent performance, wondrous events and consequential impact. It is not that the Institute for Culture and Society did not perform magnificently in the last twelve months, but the nature of the past year forces me to reflect here on what so often remains unsaid in most director's reports.

The working life of a researcher is intensely pressured, and the intellectual life of an institute is fragile, easily impaired and sometimes difficult to nourish. This fragility can be compounded by many things. It is, for example, all too easy for the executive leadership of a research institute to become caught up in the internal politics of the university, wrangling over time, authority, priorities, direction, participation, appointments, expectations and money. The difficulties of 2017 were manifold. Of course, the negotiated background features of all contemporary universities always push and pull researchers in different directions. Nevertheless, in 2017 three key categories of difficulty came together and redoubled our pressure.

Firstly, there are always difficulties that come from living in a world of complex embodied relations. Our lives are shared with families, parents, friends, lovers, neighbours — their complex lives are ours, and their concerns should bear back upon us. There is also the issue of our own bodies. As workers, we unnaturally sit at computers day and night, our eyes strangely and intensely alive, our fingers communicating furiously with the world, while the rest of our bodies sit immobile, pulled down to a chair by material forces that we mostly take as given. Despite keen attention to health and safety in the Institute, we experienced damaged backs, knees, hips, necks, viruses, a-typical bacterial susceptibilities, and simple stress — we had them all in 2017.

Secondly, brought on by the knowledge revolution of the late-twentieth century, and exacerbated by the increasing tendency to codify work outcomes, intensify performance assessment, and create a culture of status hierarchy, the nature of scholarly work has been substantially remade. In summary, we work under the difficulties of a culture of intense performativity. Bring this into intersection with a world of complex embodied relations, and the pressure on individuals is redoubled. The standing of ICS rests heavily on a professorial group who are in a position to retire over the next five years — yes, I can say it: age shall eventually weary them (us). This changing of the vanguard has consequences, particularly for our mid-career researchers, who are still to build the extraordinary track records of our senior colleagues. Here questions of gender, career-stage, and commitments to other responsibilities are ever-present.

Thirdly, there is the difficulty of working with institutional and government uncertainty. The year was characterized by a series of badly sequenced interventions, in large part prompted by an unanticipated emphasis on the operational budget and student load and exacerbated by a government seeking to divest itself of responsibility for higher education as a public good. We lived through an Early Voluntary Redundancy Scheme (EVRS); the Enterprise bargaining process; Operation Essex, which transformed into the uniquely disruptively 'Shared Services' process; a 'Faculty' restructuring process

led to challenging (sometimes destructive) questions about the place of institutes; and budget cuts across the board, including the Institute for Culture and Society. The hopes of *Transforming Western Sydney* were dissipated.

As an Institute, we responded with intensity and commitment. We interrogated and refined the strategic plan of the Institute. We enacted our engagement and impact plan with unparalleled commitment. We envisioned and initiated new collaborative research projects. With adjustments and adaptations, our research, our engagement and our HDR culture continued to flourish. Our global Knowledge/Culture conference series was extended with a stunning conference in Santiago, Chile. Our partnership program was confirmed with the co-hosting of the Ecocities Summit, the largest urban ecology conference in Australia's history. And most importantly, our people continued to live productive intellectual lives, taking in the demands of a culture of performativity, but focussing on what we do best — engaged research, directed towards excellence and *positive* impact.

Oh, and did I not begin by saying that we had a magnificent year? Read of the rest of this *Annual Review*, and you will see that, despite confronting issues, the people of the Institute for Culture and Society continued to build our place as a creative, productive and exciting institution. Across the year I watched in awe as our researchers maintain the old craft of scholarship while energetically engaging with an increasingly demanding world.

**Paul James**  
**Director**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul James', with a large, stylized initial 'P' and 'J' that loop around each other.





Arkan Youself in conversation with Iman Partoredjo from the Liverpool Migrant Resource Centre. The image was taken at the ICS Critical Issues Workshop, hosted in 2017.

# Manifesto

**The Institute for Culture and Society researches transformations in culture and society in the context of contemporary global change. It champions collaborative engaged research in the humanities and social sciences for a globalising digital age.**

The Institute's engaged research is committed to making a positive difference in the world. It is engaged ethically and reciprocally with others. Our aim is to carry out innovative interdisciplinary research into continuities and transformations in culture and society in a way that contributes to understanding and shaping contemporary local and global life. This approach involves being reflexively engaged both with the world and in understanding the conditions and limits of its own knowledge practices.

The world today is undergoing change at an unprecedented scale and speed. Major global trends include global civilisational tensions, technological transformations, environmental crises, economic instability, geopolitical shifts, unprecedented transnational mobilities, and rampant urbanisation. These trends pose massive challenges for culture and society. They affect our ways of life and require far-reaching cultural action at local, national and global levels.

The Institute's research program speaks to these multidimensional problems and challenges. A key concern for the Institute is to address the increasingly problematic and uncertain status of knowledge in the contemporary world as a consequence of the increasing complexity of culture and society, including the rise of digital technologies.

## ABOUT US

The Institute is the largest dedicated research concentration of its kind in Australia. Located in Parramatta, Australia, at Western Sydney University, the Institute operates a vigorous program of events that are both locally and globally oriented. Its regular Knowledge/Culture conference series has included addresses from leading international scholars such as Marisol de la Cadena, Dipesh Chakrabarty, Arturo Escobar, Eduardo Gudynas, Penny Harvey, Bruno Latour, Timothy Mitchell, Aihwa Ong, and Nikolas Rose, and Erik Swyngedouw. In 2015, this conference was held in Hanoi. In 2017, it was held in Santiago. In 2018, it will be held in Luneberg, Germany.

Institute members work in a broad range of fields including cultural studies, sociology, media and communication studies, human geography, anthropology, history, museum studies, heritage studies, and urban studies. The Institute's senior staff members comprise a unique group of world-renowned scholars including Ien Ang, Tony Bennett, Gay Hawkins and Greg Noble (cultural studies and cultural theory), Kay Anderson, Katherine Gibson, Donald McNeill and Deborah Stevenson (human geography and urban studies), Bob Hodge, Paul James and Brett Neilson (social theory and global studies), and Ned Rossiter and David Rowe (media and digital studies). ICS also has many others members at earlier stages in their research careers. These scholars work with and across these disciplinary boundaries on questions of cultural and social change.

Our overall goal is to generate engaged research, characterised by excellence, capacity-building and long-term positive impact in the world.



## ABOUT OUR PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGED RESEARCH

Engaged research is an orientation to others, including those with whom we are researching and those who are involved in the area in which we are researching. This means that such a research sensibility carries all the weight of overlapping networks and groups of human relations. It also carries the weight of engagement with beings and entities beyond the human, including ecologies and objects in the world. If, as we are so often reminded, we are now living in the period of the Anthropocene when humans began to change the nature of nature, then these relationships matter a great deal, as one part of our engagement with the world.

### Principle 1.

Engaged research is developed through relations of reciprocity.

### Principle 2.

Engaged research is long-term and future-oriented, even as it begins with the present and takes seriously the constitutive importance of the past.

### Principle 3.

Engaged research is conducted in relation to lived places, recognising that places are stretched across various extensions of spatiality from the local to the global.

### Principle 4.

Engaged research works critically to understand the human condition, but it does so by working across the intersection of the social and the natural.

### Principle 5.

Engaged research seeks to work through difference rather than dissolve that difference.

### Principle 6.

Engaged research recognises that knowledge and enquiry is bound up with power and practice.

### Principle 7.

Engaged research is sensitive to the issue that methodological decisions have ethical and practical consequences, both for understanding and practicing in the world.

These principles are orientations for practice rather than inflexible injunctions. Meeting the terms of these principles does not mean that every project in an engaged research portfolio is characterised by all of the principles. It means rather that the researchers who are working with such an orientation attend to these principles as a broad sensibility of research, and that each of their projects is treated as part of a larger whole.

# Research Programs

## CITIES AND ECONOMIES

### **How are cities and economies changing in response to global pressures and innovations?**

Global pressures are reshaping the relations between cities and economies. The program draws on urban, economic, geographic, political, and cultural theory to understand how these relations are changing during a time of unprecedented environmental and technological transformation. Our research seeks to identify opportunities for meeting the needs of cities and their governing bodies by rethinking the idea of economies — in particular the way in which the capitalist economy tends to crowd out other economic practices that exist outside the field described by conventional economics. We are developing experimental and participatory approaches to enable organisational, cultural, and municipal governance to respond to multiple challenges: climate change adaptation, wellbeing in aging societies, cultural policy, and effective use of technology in urban governance. End-users of our research include Parramatta City Council, Sydney City Council, City of Port Phillip, SEMZ Property Group, and Urban Growth NSW.

## DIGITAL LIFE

### **How are we to respond to the impacts of the many transformations affected by digital technologies?**

Digital technologies are reshaping our social and cultural lives with profound effects for individuals, families, communities, governments and institutions. Today it is no longer provocative to say that all life is becoming digital. Disengagement from mobile devices, surveillance cameras, databases, global mapping systems, and algorithmic operations is barely, if at all, an option. The Digital Life program investigates how digital technologies mediate our relations with one another and change the means by which knowledge is created and circulated in the contemporary world. The program seeks to understand how digital technologies can become a capacity-enhancing dimension of social and institutional life rather than being left to remake all before them. We have a special interest in developing digital methods for social and cultural research. Our work informs questions of city design, digital economy, infrastructure provision, mapping digital capacities and the socio-cultural aspects of young people's technology use. We work with partners from all sectors, including not for profit organisations, academic institutions and companies such as Google and Ericsson.



## DIVERSITY AND GLOBALISATION

### **How can positive diversity flourish locally and globally under conditions of uneven globalisation?**

Intensifying globalisation has had a profound impact upon current practices of multiculturalism. Where people once thought of themselves as related to a single ethnicity within a national frame, many people now relate to more hybrid identities. Experiences of diversity are shifting with intergenerational change, cultural adaptation, intermarriage, temporary migration, media flows and the widening cultural, linguistic and religious diversity of immigrants to Australia. The program explores the impact of this 'diversification of diversity', investigating its implications for a range of issues such as education, housing, Indigenous policy and Australia's changing position within the Asian region. Our research seeks to create understandings around social order, identities and relations and to lead to the better management of diversity and its impact on everyday life. One emerging issue in this area concerns a tension between the need for data collection on the contemporary complexity of diversity and the possibly reductive nature of cultural descriptors. Advancing policy and practice around diversity may therefore require a reassessment of the categories that organisations employ and the forms of data they collect and use. We are currently working on this problem with institutions and end-users such as Multicultural NSW, NSW Department of Education, Settlement Services International, NSW Rural Fire Services, NSW State Emergency Service, NSW Department of Family and Community Services, Multicultural Health NSW, Western Sydney Local Health District, Waverley Council, and Cultural and Indigenous Research Australia.

## HERITAGE AND ENVIRONMENT

### **How can humanity remake its relationship with the material world so as to exist sustainably in the Anthropocene?**

Human actions have for the first time become a determining cause of Earth-system change, the most obvious manifestation of which is global warming. While the 2015 Paris Agreement on climate change provides a strategy for winding back carbon emissions, we believe that the onset of the Anthropocene calls for a profound rethinking of human material practices. This includes the commercialisation and privatisation of common resources such as water, the unsustainable expansion of human habitat via coastal reclamation, and the escalating discard of human waste in terrestrial and marine environments. Drawing upon a unique convergence of skills and experience in the environmental humanities, anthropology, archaeology, heritage studies, and environmental education, the program is developing new conceptual tools and policy alternatives for living in the Anthropocene. These include a study of ways and means of strengthening the water commons by encouraging the drinking of tap water over bottled water; and a study of the history and social value of coastal reclamations in Australia and China, aimed at better understanding adaptations to sea level rise. The reality of anthropogenic climate change and heightening public consciousness of its impacts are creating an unprecedented need for a radically improved capacity to conceptualise the long-term consequences of human interventions in nature. Responding to this need, the program pursues research with organisations such as Sydney Water, Bushfire and Natural Hazards Cooperative Research Centre, the Australian Broadcasting Institute, the Chilean Antarctic Institute and Hobart City Council.

# Strategic Initiatives

## CIRCLES OF SUSTAINABILITY

**How can we rethink questions of sustainability in such a way that enables positive, practical and integrated change in cities, communities and organisations?**

The *Circles of Sustainability* initiative seeks to connect a rich and generalising theorisation of social sustainability to a series of practical engagements and projects. It responds to the emergence of the concept of 'sustainability' as a keyword of both academics and practitioners — which instantly means it is one of the most elusive terms in the public lexicon. At its base level, positive sustainability can be interpreted as the technical objective of minimising our ecological footprint while otherwise perpetuating current ways of life. Our approach instead takes on a much greater challenge. It asks, how can we think dynamically, dialectically, and practically about social practice in the context of the contradictory complications facing our social life today? The social is thus treated as a complex series of relations that operate through four integrated domains of ecology, economy, culture and the political. Originally developed in response to the reductive use of the Triple Bottom Line, more recently we have begun to connect with other conceptual frameworks, such as Amartya Sen and Martha Nussbaum's capabilities approach, and David Harvey's theories of the cosmopolitan. This in turn has helped us to develop more precise statements, methods and instruments as to how the framework can be operationalised in practice.

## COMMUNITY ECONOMIES

**What is enabled when the economy is represented as a heterogeneous series of lived practices — as opposed to a singularly capitalist, space?**

The Community Economies Initiative works with a representation of a diverse (rather than a capitalist) economy and fosters economic experimentation premised on shared values, ethical practices and acknowledged interdependencies. This initiative is part of an international Community Economies Research Network (CERN) of over 130 members across 16 countries. It is co-ordinated by the Community Economies Collective, initially founded by J.K. Gibson-Graham in the 1990s. Research engagements include reappraising the resilience of community-based economic practices in South East Asia that have the potential to contribute to present-day climate-change adaptation; studying the capitalist and non-capitalist enterprise diversity of the Australian manufacturing sector as a contribution to highlighting production cultures with expressed social commitments, including to economic equity and ecological sustainability; exploring how diverse tenure systems and forms of co-operation can be used to address the housing crisis in metropolitan Australia and in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. Community economies research is driving the theorisation of 'commoning' as an everyday act with potential to contribute to the kinds of social transformation called for in a climate-changing world.



## CULTURAL FIELDS

**How do social forces bear on the ways in which varied forms of cultural expression across all kinds of media are produced, distributed and consumed, and with what social consequences?**

This Initiative focuses particularly on the ways in which cultural processes interact with different aspects of social life: with the social relations of class, inequality, and gender; with Australia's multicultural policies and populations; and with the changing role of Indigenous culture in Australia. Focusing on the period since Australia's historic 1994 cultural policy statement, *Creative Nation*, it examines the range of national and transnational forces that have reshaped cultural practices across the fields of sport, television, music, literature, visual art, and heritage. It does so by means of a survey administered to a national sample of Australians, including boost samples of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, and representatives of Australia's Italian, Lebanese, Chinese, and Indian communities. Follow-up interviews are being conducted with members of these samples, with representatives of Australia's economic, cultural and political elites, and with leading figures in Australia's cultural sector organisations. A basis will be laid for a number of inquiries which, taking their bearings from the findings of this project, will explore key aspects of Australian cultural practice in greater detail. There are a number of possibilities here. Some focus on looking more closely at particular patterns of change in specific fields: sport and the visual arts, for examples, through custom-designed surveys. Others would explore the cultural practices of particular groups in greater detail.

## YOUNG AND RESILIENT

**How can children and young people's technology practices be used to support their wellbeing?**

Mental ill-health seriously affects the quality of life of many Australians, their families, and communities, and currently costs the Australian economy up to \$40 billion per year. Our work demonstrates that, if harnessed effectively, children and young people's technology practices can powerfully support their mental health and wellbeing. Building on a range of projects, including those carried out by researchers in the Young and Well CRC (2011–2016), this initiative works closely with young Australians and partners from across sectors — for example, Google Australia, Foundation for Young Australians, City of Parramatta Council — to investigate how to support children and young people to develop the skills, confidence and resilience to adapt and thrive in the changing circumstances that characterise the digital age. We focus on generating research that enables governments, community, and corporates to engage and build capacity in our nation's most disadvantaged children and young people. The Initiative deploys a combination of innovative digital research methods and conventional qualitative and quantitative methods. To date it has developed, trialled and tested a world-first measure of Australians' digital capacities, an online research and engagement platform for young people to share their experiences of their rights in the digital age, and a framework for youth-engaged policy-making.



# ESSAY IN ENGAGED RESEARCH



Image taken of ICS researcher, Associate Professor  
Juan Francisco Salazar in Santiago, Chile, where  
ICS co-hosted the 'Knowledge/Culture' conference  
on ecologies and material culture in 2017.



# Thinking Anthropocentrically

## THINKING ANTHROPOCENICALLY

DENIS BYRNE AND PAUL JAMES

The Anthropocene is a phenomenon which has taken up residence in our minds and our research practices. Some might argue for variations in naming the phenomenon — the Capitalocene,<sup>1</sup> the Chthulucene,<sup>2</sup> and so on — but the process through which humans have come fundamentally to impact the planet is now too well documented and measured to be dismissed. The concept of the 'Anthropocene' entered the purview of researchers in the Institute for Culture and Society by way of a cultural shock. We, along with many others, have been forced to recognise that many environmental 'systems' are no longer independent of human social action.<sup>3</sup> We find, for example, that the carbon emitted by everyday activities, which are intrinsic the complex lives of so many of us, have contributed to changing the world's climate. Now, even our simplest activities, once avidly pursued with all their unintended ecological consequences, are revealed to have a 'carbon footprint'.

The reality of the Anthropocene cuts the ground cleanly out from under the doctrine of Progress, the ideology which underpinned the industrializing West's esteem and confidence, as well as serving to excuse industrial capitalism's negatives, including environmental pollution and workplace death and injury.<sup>4</sup> Recognising the passing of Progress, we structure this essay around an alternative conception of human history over the last few centuries as a kind of dance, or what one might call the 'Anthropocene shuffle.' This essay represents the coming together of two perspectives on the contemporary global environmental crisis — those of archaeology (Denis) and of social theory (Paul).

## FOUR STEPS BACK AND ONE STEP FORWARD

As a research institute focused on finding better ways of living in a rapidly changing world, we find it no longer possible to study 'the social' independent of 'the environmental'. But if the environment or nature can no longer be thought of as just a background to or setting for the social, and if it is accepted that the human-social permeates the earth system, equally — and this has also come as a shock — we must now contend with the realization that earth's many 'sub-systems', which we were brought up to see as being all around us, are actually also inside us as biosocial beings. The environment is no longer just out there. To be sure, the environment continues to be the integrative space in which we exist, but thinking in this double way — as both context and constitutive being — requires basic changes to our research vocabulary, thinking and practice.

This is why we have chosen, following its Greek etymological roots, to define 'ecology' as a domain of the social — along with economics, politics and culture. It is the domain that concerns *the materiality* of the intersection of the social and the environmental, just as culture concerns *the meaning* of social relations, including the relations of that intersection. The environment in this sense comes to be understood as that which *both* grounds our existence (in every way) *and* exists far beyond even the most expansive definitions of the social or the ecological. This means that it no longer even makes sense, except in very well-defined circumstances, to talk of the 'more-than-human' to describe the environment. We can no longer be comfortable with treating the human as the point of departure for all beings and things, as if they are *only* 'more-than' us.<sup>5</sup> At same time, any suggestion that becoming post-human is a viable politics, ignores the

contradictions entailed in leaving behind what constituted us as humans across the natural/ social history of our being.

Hence, in our research thinking, there is first the need for taking a few steps backward from the mainstream (modern) centring of the human and also from the fashionable (postmodern) flattening of ontological difference into a single plane of being. Full recognition of the complexities and contradictions of the Anthropocene would force this upon us.

### BACKWARD STEP 1. RECOGNIZE THAT NON-HUMAN BEING IS CONSTITUTIVELY ENMESHED IN HUMAN BEING — BUT NOT AS AN ONTOLOGICAL FLATTENING OF THE HUMAN AND NATURAL.

'Social space was never exclusively human', as Timothy Morton puts it.<sup>6</sup> But this doesn't just mean we share this space with nonhumans or that we relate to nonhumans within social space; it means also that nonhumans are present in the space of our bodies *in old and new* ways. We have long known we embody nonhumans in the form of bacteria and we now know there are around ten times the number of microbial cells in the human body as there are human cells. But in addition to this old ecological enmeshment with nonhumans, we have produced the elements of new kinds of enmeshment. For example, over the 240 years since we have been burning serious amounts of coal for industrial production and power generation, millions of us have breathed in significant volumes of fine particles released by this burning. It is partly with this in mind that Kathryn Yusoff proposes that we rethink the Anthropocene as being characterised by a 'corporeal geology *of/in the blood*, rather than a universal stratigraphic trace in some future geologic record'.<sup>7</sup> The chemicals in

1 J. Moore, 2015, *Capitalism in the Web of Life: Ecology and the Accumulation of Capital*, Verso, London.

2 D. Haraway, 2016, *Staying with the Trouble: Making Kin in the Chthulucene*, Duke University Press, Durham.

3 Here we use the concepts of 'system' and 'sub-system' advisedly as simplifying scientific metaphors for manifold processes too complex to name other than as a series of abstractions. This does not make the use of the terms illegitimate. It makes them a heuristically useful so long as they are not reified as things in themselves.

4 This of course was not how it was intended by the person who coined the term: D. Abram, 1996, *The Spell of the Sensuous: Perception and Language in a More-than-Human World*, Pantheon Books, New York.

5 C. Bonneuil and J-B Fressoz, 2016, *The Shock of the Anthropocene*, Verso, London.

6 T. Morton, *Humankind: Solidarity with Nonhuman People*, Verso, London, p. 139.

7 K. Yusoff, 2018, 'Epochal Aesthetics: Affectual Infrastructures of the Anthropocene', e-flux 29 March, p. 204. <http://www.e-flux.com/architecture/accumulation/121847/epochal-aesthetics-affectual-infrastructures-of-the-anthropocene/>.

makeup and other skin products, for example, constitute one ecology of this embodiment, becoming part of who we are even as we present the surface of ourselves through them.

The so-called 'material turn' in the humanities and social sciences has led us beyond conceding agency to materials such as iron ore, alloys such as aluminium and glass, and complex objects like phones and houses, to an understanding 'nonhumans' (noting that the concept of 'nonhuman' needs to be used judiciously) as having a vibrancy and integrity of their own. This amounts to a retreat from the generalized *modern* idea in the West that humans have a monopoly on these qualities,<sup>8</sup> but it also opens the way to new kinds of problems of understanding and attribution. Just as the prior materialism of Marxism was criticised for sometimes entertaining the sin of technological determinism, the new materialism is in danger of both over-generalizing the agency of things, technologies and objects, while excusing us humans as dominant actors on planet earth. If everything is an actor in the same way as human beings, then coal and concrete must be as culpable for climate change as the humans whose life-worlds were built upon these materials, ... and, more pointedly, the humans who continue to advocate for these materials when their massive use has been shown to compromise the sustainability of the planet.

Why is it, as political paeans to the beauty of coal are sung by political advocates across the world, avant garde social theory has turned in the same direction? The flat ontology of Actor Network theory, for example, provides a non-hierarchical view of human-nonhuman relations, but ANT's conception of objects as mediating relations between humans has opened it to the critique of being underwritten by an anthropocentrism in which things

are primarily of interest to us when seen to be involved in human projects. Here an assiduous critique of anthropocentrism can be distinguished from the recognition of our mixed poetic tendency towards anthropomorphism. Anthropomorphism is sometimes good poetics, and sometimes, in attributing human-like capacities to others, turns into a bad re-centring of those human capacities as describing the way of all things. Does coal act? Yes, but not with intention, feeling or subjective agency. Through continuing anthropocentrism, things are too often enrolled or domesticated as quasi-humans, so disguising their 'thingly otherness'.<sup>9</sup> Things, objects and unknown beings clearly exceed their relations with humans. As Graham Harman points out, 'the vast majority of relations in the universe do not involve human beings, those obscure inhabitants of an average-sized planet near a middling sun, one of 100 billion stars near the fringe of an undistinguished galaxy among at least 100 billion others.'<sup>10</sup> This means that we while we need to recognize that non-human being is constitutively enmeshed in human being (Backward Step 1), it is equally important that in the process of that recognition we do not to flatten the ontological meaning of either the human or the natural.

The tendency we have to 'socialize' nonhumans and give them dubious anthropomorphized agency is understandable given the enormous number of objects that have been tailored for human use, the number of species whose bodies and lives have been changed by us, and the number of rivers, coastlines, forests, swamps, soils and airs that show unmistakable signs of our impact. It is this that the Anthropocene has been named for but, equally, our susceptibility to being deafened by our own noise and hence to be

unable to imagine a world without us is a real obstacle to of our mobilizing against the reproduction of Anthropocenic relations.

In all of this we are pointing to the extent to which it has become increasing difficult to practice humanities and social science research within the space formerly understood as social space or (more narrowly) human space, without rethinking what it means to talk of 'the social' and what it means to be 'human'.

### **BACKWARD STEP 2. EXCAVATE CAREFULLY AND THEN LEARN FROM THE NEGATIVE DEBRIS OF THE ANTHROPOCENE.**

There was only a relatively small interval in time between the idea of geological strata being introduced through the work of scientists like Georges Cuvier and James Lyell — a bit over 200 years — and the 1950s when we began laying down to lay down the elements of what would qualify as our own geological strata.<sup>11</sup> Archaeologists are classically thought of as excavating remains of the human past buried in the earth, but as the Anthropocene strata takes shape as a layer accumulating on the earth's surface, some are turning to interrogate this layer as an archaeological object in its own right.<sup>12</sup> A mass of textual, audio, visual and other records testify to Earth's history in the period since the early 1950s, but there is an argument to be made that — in addition to these sources — we should allow the objects of the Anthropocene to signify themselves. Objects do play active roles in history. Objects do 'speak' (if we understand the term 'speak' to be only a poetic expression of a thingly acting we do not have the words for). The plastic water bottle, for example, has material potentialities that have proven to be highly significant in the

8 And in our modern hubris it should not be forgotten that customary and traditional peoples long lived with animate matter, understood along different ontological valences from the analogical to the cosmological.

9 G. Harman, 2016, *Immaterialism: Objects and Social Theory*, Cambridge, Polity Press; B. Olsen, 2013, 'The Return to What?', in A. González-Ruibal (ed.), *Reclaiming Archaeology: Beyond the Tropes of Modernity*, London, Routledge, p. 293.

10 Harman, *Immaterialism*, p. 6.

11 The base horizon of this strata is marked by deposits of plutonium from nuclear testing in the 1950s and the presence of an altered carbon chemistry, these being identified in core samples at a steadily increasing number of globally distributed sites (Davis and Todd 2017; Waters *et al.* 2017). Other markers include traces on/in the ground of mass extinction, waste from petrochemical products including plastic, and the spread of artificial earth.

12 M. Edgeworth, 2014, 'Archaeology in the Anthropocene: Introduction', *Journal of Contemporary Archaeology* vol. 1, no. 1, pp. 73–7; J.M. Erlandson and T.J. Braje, 2013, 'Archaeology and the Anthropocene', *Anthropocene* no. 4, pp. 1–7. P. Pétersdóttir, 2017, 'Climate Change? Archaeology and the Anthropocene', *Archaeological Dialogues*, vol. 24, no. 2, pp. 175–205.

commodification of drinking water.<sup>13</sup> It speaks to the profound effects of the simple everyday activity of sipping as degrading nature as we have known it.

The word 'interrogate' used above is actually not a well-chosen word for archaeology's full relationship with things. As a practice, it engages in a peculiar form of 'care, obligation, and loyalty to things'.<sup>14</sup> A certain intimacy with objects builds up over the many hours spent uncovering, handling, gazing at, and wondering about them. This practice of care gestures to a kind of 'engaged research'<sup>15</sup> where the engagement extends to things as well as humans. It extends also to caring for nonhuman species and their habitats, to the soil, the sea and the air.

On a drift beach in northern Norway, the archaeologist Þóra Pétursdóttir has recently excavated parts of a deposit of wrack, which she describes as 'matter in motion'.<sup>16</sup> She understands the fragments of driftwood, plastic bottles, synthetic rope and netting, net floats, and a variety of other plastic objects (now tangled up with kelp and seaweed and with beach pebbles and sand) as having 'escaped human relations' to drift across the sea until coming to dwell in the circulating surface waters of the North Atlantic Current, and to eventually be deposited by storms and tides in Eidsbukta Cove. The plastic things in the wrack are 'unruly' objects: we made them but they are by no means domesticated, subjugated, or predictable.<sup>17</sup> The refusal of plastics to biodegrade — they break up into small and smaller pieces but their molecules remain intact — ensures that they are on their way to becoming part of the geology of the Anthropocene. It is the very *persistence* of such objects, and the hyper-objects they coalesce into, that underpins this era.

It is because so much human waste *does* persist after being discarded, and that it persists in a dynamic state of accumulation, that it poses such a threat to us and other living beings. In Pétursdóttir's archaeology these waste objects are regarded neither negatively nor positively. How can they be negative? After all, it is not they that have precipitated the Anthropocene; we have. This care-full troweling away at the material record of the recent past provides for an archaeology of both us and dark matter that has left the ambit of our direct agency. It is not an archaeology of our prehistoric, classical, or early modern predecessors, but of the 'we' who are the enactors and inheritors of the Great Acceleration.<sup>18</sup> In these terms, it is possible to recognize these rubbish gyres as positive in their negativity — they are material signs (positive in the sense that they communicate a new reality) of our own excess (negative in the sense that we are now dangerously exceeding the limits of the planet). In other words, *the social relations* concerning these objects are negative, and we still need to do something about those relations.

### **BACKWARD STEP 3. AFFORD PROCESSES THAT WE ONCE SAW AS POSITIVE THEIR FULL COMPLEX ANTHROPOCENIC NEGATIVITY, AND REMEMBER THAT SUCH PROCESSES CAN CHANGE THE PRIOR CONDITION OF NATURE.**

As the world comes to accept that we do live in the period of the Anthropocene, old concepts and new are being reworked or revived to mask the continuation of destructive human practices that are not sustainable. Even perfectly good concepts such as sustainability and resilience are being

co-opted. The concept of 'reclamation', for example, has in the past been seen as a positive act, and it continues to be so for those living in the 'progressive' present: from developers talking of reclaiming swamp lands to oil-sand miners treating land reclamation as a form of custodial responsibility.<sup>19</sup> Coastal reclamations are a telling example. Notwithstanding the new (and shocking) move to describe coastal reclamation as a means of responding to climate change,<sup>20</sup> coastal reclamation is an exemplar of the 'artificial earth' of the Anthropocene which arises when coastal waters are in-filled in order to extend humanity's terrestrial habitat seawards. There is an over-reaching conceit in the word 'reclamation' and its presumption that the seascape we *claim back* is already incipiently landscape for human habitation.<sup>21</sup>

In the current era of anthropogenic sea-level rise, you'd think we would be too busy defending what land we have to contemplate extending further into the sea. But globally the rate of coastal reclamation is increasing rather than abating. In China, for example, where almost half the country's coastal wetlands were *lost* to reclamation between 1950 and 2000 and where 11,000 kilometres of coastline is now under some form of reclamation, major new reclamations are either under way or on the drawing board, providing space for container ports, urban expansion, theme parks and fish farms.<sup>22</sup>

Once reclamations have been in place for a certain amount of time, they often assume the attribute of being hard to see, something which is especially true of those created for agriculture, parkland, and housing estates. Through the work of bacteria and earthworms, the infill of the reclamation may soon become a living soil, supporting trees and other plants. The reclamation's surface

13 G. Hawkins, E. Potter and K. Race, 2015, *Plastic Water: The Social and Material Life of Bottled Water*. Cambridge, MIT Press, pp. 4–5.

14 B. Olsen, 2012, *Archaeology: The Discipline of Things*, Berkeley, University of California Press, p. 1.

15 P. James, 2015, 'Engaged research', in H. Barcham (ed.), *Institute for Culture and Society: 2014 Annual Review*, University of Western Sydney, Penrith.

16 Pétursdóttir, 'Climate Change?', p. 190.

17 On the unruliness of things see B. Olsen, 'The return of what?' in A. Gonzalez Ruibal (ed.), *Reclaiming Archaeology: Beyond the Tropes of Modernity*, pp. 289–296. London: Routledge, here p. 295.

18 W. Steffen, W. Broadgate, L. Deutsch, O. Gaffney and C. Ludwig, 2015, 'The Trajectory of the Anthropocene: The Great Acceleration', *The Anthropocene Review* vol. 2, no. 1, pp. 81–98.

19 See [sustainability.suncor.com/2017/en/environment/reclamation.aspx](http://sustainability.suncor.com/2017/en/environment/reclamation.aspx) (last accessed 4 April 2018) for Suncorp's description of reclamation.

20 [www.eco-business.com/videos/more-land-less-sand-singapores-latest-reclamation-project/](http://www.eco-business.com/videos/more-land-less-sand-singapores-latest-reclamation-project/) (last accessed 4 April 2018).

21 D. Byrne, 2017, 'Remembering the Elizabeth Bay Reclamation and the Holocene Sunset in Sydney Harbour', *Environmental Humanities*, vol. 9, no. 1., pp. 40–59.

22 Zhijun Ma, D.S. Melville, Jianguo Liu, Hongyan Yang, Wenwei Ren, Zhengwang Zhang, T. Piersma and Bo Li, 2014, 'Rethinking China's New Great Wall', *Science*, vol. 346, no. 6212, pp. 912–14.



assumes a beguiling naturalness — and indeed in some ways it is natural (this is the complexity of emeshment that we pointed to earlier). However, the exact location of the boundary line where the reclamation was sutured to the natural landscape quickly becomes blurred in our memories, and the human once again makes over the natural. Familiarity in this case breeds not contempt but a kind of topographic forgetfulness, which we can arguably no longer afford. In order to ensure the Anthropocene is as short/thin as possible,<sup>23</sup> one of the things we need is topographic remembrance. Engaged research can contribute to keeping this past-present relation to the fore.

More than that, coastal reclamations are not so much about creating new land as creating a certain kind of land: abstracted *flat* land.<sup>24</sup> Our first large-scale efforts at levelling were to do with agriculture: hill slopes terraced to create flat fields for crops. (This is why the Anthropocene is sometimes called the Plantationocene). The flatlands of river deltas became premium habitats for agriculture. In areas where rivers carried large volumes of sediment downstream, much of it to be deposited to form delta mudflats, people constructed bunds to encourage tidal waters to drop their sediment load, sediment which gradually accumulated to form cultivable fields. This way of mimicking natural processes in order to 'grow' land began in China's Pearl River Delta began around 1,400 years ago, became more common in the Southern Song dynasty (1127–1279 AD) and greatly intensified from the 1740s.<sup>25</sup> Over time, new agricultural reclamations were added to the outer edge of older ones to create lateral bands of flat land, extending in a ripple effect out from the original coastline. These patterns show up clearly on the satellite imagery available on Google Earth and Baidu Map. What changed in the Pearl River Delta with the economic reform era, beginning in the late 1970s after the death of Mao, was that — with the aid of earth-moving machinery — a new kind of 'reclamation' appeared. It

was one created by transporting, often over considerable distances, sand, urban waste, concrete from demolished buildings, and rock from highway cuttings. One of the hallmarks of the Anthropocene is a greatly enhanced human ability to move materials through space, and a great deal of this movement occurs in the context of creating new flatlands as platforms for human living.

The spread of coastal reclamations is not currently one of the series of global indicators being used to demonstrate that human activity has become the prime driver of change in the Earth system (the sum of the planet's interacting physical, chemical, biological and human processes).<sup>26</sup> But it has in common with such indicators as water-use, large dam construction, and carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, the fact that what has changed dramatically from around the 1950s is the accelerating scale of human impact.<sup>27</sup>

**BACKWARD STEP 4. RECOGNIZE THAT THE ANTHROPOCENE INVOLVES NOT JUST AN EMPIRICAL ACCELERATION OF IMPACT, BUT ALSO A QUALITATIVE CHANGE — IN THIS CASE, THE EMERGENT POSSIBILITY OF RECONSTITUTING THE NATURE OF NATURE.**

The concept of 'the Great Acceleration', for all of its strengths, remains a set of empirical measures concerning human impact. This signals the current dominance of scientific object-oriented thinking. However, as is perhaps more obvious to humanities and social science researchers — perhaps less so in the sciences — this impact can be understood both quantitatively and qualitatively. From the time in the early 2000s when the term first took off, the definition of the Anthropocene became the period in which humans have had a defined scientifically measureable *quantitative* impact upon the planet. To understand the full measure of this impact, however, we need to take a step back to an older form of *qualitative* studies — cultural and

political studies before the flattening of theory — which could talk of thresholds of change and dialectics of continuity.

The Anthropocene is said to have begun in the eighteenth century, *tout court*. What this epochal and flat historicising misses completely is the way in which humans across the past half-century or so have gone beyond just having *an impact* upon geo-nature. Certainly, we continue with our determined empirical impact, exploring the farthest reaches of nature, pushing it around with bulldozers, ripping it into trucks, dropping it into the ocean to 'reclaim' more coastlines, ploughing long lines through it, burning it for energy, and gently contouring it for parks and gardens. But now, and conterminously, something more than that is happening.

We talked earlier of the human technique of mimicking nature or reconstructing the contours of nature. In the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, the speed of human colonization of the Earth certainly increased very rapidly, and continues today, through the 'settlement' of nature as territory and the colonization of indigenous populations. However, beyond that, we are now seeing a reconstitution of the foundations of prior nature. Since the middle of the twentieth century, techno-science has been busy reconstituting the very building blocks of nature: atoms, cells, genes, and so. Other building blocks which were missing or only incipiently part of the scientific lexicon in the mid-twentieth century — quarks, the higgs boson, genes, ripples in space/time, nucleotides and chromosomes — are now being interrogated for what they can offer human desires. (Here, interrogated *is* the right word.) What came to public consciousness with the splitting of the atom in 1945, intervention in the nature of nature, has now extended to everything, from nano-technology production, bio-engineering, stem cell therapy, and DNA manipulation to geo-engineering and terra-forming. Over the past few decades, humans have begun meta-colonizing the planet — sometimes just

23 Haraway, *Staying with the Trouble*, p. 100.

24 On the abstraction of land see J.C. Scott, *Seeing Like a State: How Certain Schemes to Improve the Human Condition have Failed*, Newhaven, Yale University Press

25 Wei Zhang, Yang Xu, A.J.F. Hoitink, M.G. Sassi, Jinhai Zheng, Xiaowen Chen and Chi Zhang, 2015, 'Morphological Change in the Pearl River Delta, China', *Marine Geology* no. 363, pp. 202–19.

26 Steffen, *et al.*, 'The Trajectory of the Anthropocene: The Great Acceleration', vol. 2, no. 1, pp. 81–98.

27 International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme, The Great Acceleration. 2015. <http://www.igbp.net/globalchange/greatacceleration.4.1b8ae20512db692f2a680001630.html>

to understand it better, sometimes in order to save it, but most often in order to exploit it a higher level of intensity.

A certain kind of science is central to this process — technoscience. Without cultural studies, sociology and social theory — the humanities and social sciences — we cannot understand how this kind of science is different from earlier pure and applied science that worked *with* nature. A proponent of a flat ontology will ask: Is not gene manipulation just an empirical extension of brushing pollen from one variety of wheat onto another variety to produce more 'robust' hybrids? Have humans not talked of atoms since the time of the Classical Greeks and the writings of 'Leucippus' and Democritus?

What then has changed in a qualitative sense? In short, some lineages of science now seek to control the nature of nature, to manipulate what once were called its 'building blocks' and to intervene in its systemic processes. Through this seeking, humans now have the capacity with the touch of a single button to destroy life on this planet as we know it (since 1952, with the phenomenon of nuclear winter) and the technical possibility of creating synthetic life-forms — since 2010, with the chemical construction of a *Mycoplasma mycoides* bacteria. As it was reported, at

the time the emphasis was on scientific breakthrough and human control as good thing:

Craig Venter, the pioneering US geneticist behind the experiment, said the achievement heralds the dawn of a new era in which new life is made to benefit humanity, starting with bacteria that churn out biofuels, soak up carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and even manufacture vaccines.<sup>28</sup>

There it is again — the idea that in going further, deeper, into the business of changing nature we will save us from ourselves. To the contrary, it is only by recognizing the full force of the point that we have the capacity to reconstitute the very basis of nature that adequate understanding of

the social life in the Anthropocene starts to hit home. Our home, planet earth, is in deep trouble, and it only by researching the tensions of this Anthropocentric entanglement and contributing to thinking about living otherwise, that we will have the capacity to respond systematically. Making new life-forms with four bottles of chemicals is not going to save us. Overall our argument is that by taking these 'backward' steps in thinking we can move to a positive ethics of care. Such an ethics is one that neither confuses empathy for objects with decentering the massive human impact upon the Earth, nor confuses increased 'control' over nature with the act of living within the limits of the planet.

### FORWARD STEP 1. DEVELOP AN ANTHROPOCENIC PERSPECTIVE

There are many ways of researching how humans have colonized planet Earth. The concept of the *archaeosphere* is one useful way of drawing attention to the fact that vast areas of the Earth are now covered by the modified soils and terraced hillslopes of agriculture, the concrete and asphalt paving of roads, airports and container ports, the underground infrastructure of tunnels, pipes and wiring below our cities, the burgeoning landfill sites, and reclamations which extend coastlines out into the sea.<sup>29</sup> This archaeosphere is a layer of varying thickness expanding at an accelerating rate, to the point that we have now become a geological agent, something which becomes starkly apparent in areas such as Japan's main island of Honshu where sixty per cent of the coastline is now classified as 'artificial', which is to say that for the most part it is concrete. Honshu has swapped much of its pre-existing coastline of beaches, dune fields and wetlands and for an ocean of concrete that forms a platform for the enactment of contemporary life — forklifts drive over it, kids bounce balls on it — but it is also a fossil-in-waiting, destined to be preserved in the geological record.

Most of Honshu's concrete dates from the time of Japan's post-war 'economic miracle', beginning in the mid-1950s, and it

is representative of a surge in the creation of concrete surfaces (platforms) that began at that time in many parts of the world and has gathered pace ever since. As an Anthropocene marker, this is much easier for most people to grasp than the plutonium traces which fell to earth following nuclear testing in the 1950s and which are now widely agreed to constitute the best marker for dating the beginning of the Anthropocene Epoch — in other words, for dating its lower bounding surface.<sup>30</sup> However, as humanities and social science scholars we need to study a much fuller complexity — material layers, natural and human continuities, and constitutive changes.

The ability of people to grasp the Anthropocene as a material reality seems a crucial prerequisite for any widespread popular mobilisation against the dark future which the Anthropocene portends. The Anthropocene has, of course, a tangible presence in the effects of global warming: the increasing frequency of heatwaves and superstorms, global ice-melt, and sea-level rise. Some of these are as graspable as signs of a long-term problem for the Earth as is the spread of the archaeosphere. But the archaeosphere has qualities of its own which lend it advantage in the quest to make the Anthropocene visible. To begin with, it is right under our feet: the park lawns where we walk our dogs, the metro tunnels through which we ride to work. By the same token, however, the everydayness of this artificial-natural ground can make it hard to see for what it is — a vast and spreading weed-mat that makes life impossible for most of our fellow species. Moreover, we need to research the non-palpable processes and structures that both continue to legitimize and take further the colonization of nature.

A challenge for those working in the social sciences and humanities is thus to find new ways of lending visibility to the Anthropocene, in all its dimensions. What is needed is an Anthropocenic perspective tailored for everyday life. Academics in the social sciences and humanities are central to such a venture,

28 The Guardian, 'Craig Venter creates synthetic life form', 21 May 2010.

29 M. Edgeworth, 2016, 'Grounded Objects: Archaeology and Speculative Realism', *Archaeological Dialogues*, vol. 23, no. 1, pp. 93–113.

30 C.N. Waters, J. Zalasiewicz, C. Summerhays, I.J. Fairchild, N.L. Rose, N.J. Loader... Matt Edgeworth. 2017. 'Global Boundary Stratotype Section and Point (GSSP) of the Anthropocene Series: Where and How to Look for Potential Candidates', *Earth-Science Reviews*, no. 178, pp. 379–429.

using the sensitive methods that they have developed for simultaneously engaging with and stepping back from everyday life. This may prove essential for the perspective advocated here, providing a view of the world that is at once familiar and strange. In order to be able to see the Anthropocene what may be needed is that of jolt to the senses and intellect whereby the other side of the ordinary snaps into focus.

The archaeosphere, other than being under the feet of most of the time, also has an historical depth and spread that offers us one window on where the Anthropocene came from. Present-day carbon emissions have their feet in the Industrial Revolution; the current proliferation of plastic begins with early twentieth-century celluloid products designed to imitate natural materials such as ivory, tortoise shell and horn<sup>31</sup>; freeways have a history in the nineteenth-century macadam

road construction process, traces of which are easy to find in present-day cities. Seeing the history of the Anthropocene in today's materiality is an exercise in futuring as much as in historicising. It is one of the practices (whether academic or everyday) that equip us be agents of interpretative change. The idea of an Anthropocene perspective, a way of *seeing* the Anthropocene as distinct from (but not instead of) naming it, goes back to the earlier point about caring. We shouldn't turn our backs on the material world we have made, however dystopic it might at times seem. By the same token, the new material turn should not distract us from simultaneously seeking to understand the kinds of sociality that frame the current crisis.

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31 J. Meikle, 1995, *American Plastic: A Cultural History*, Rutgers University Press, New Brunswick.



# RESEARCH



Image taken by ICS researcher Paul James of a barista at a café in Alice Springs, Australia, where a team of ICS researchers are working with Tangentyere Council.

# Research Director's Report



The year 2017 marked an important year of transition for the Institute in its sixth full year of operation and its first following a successful five-year review process. The year started with the appointment of Juan Francisco Salazar as ICS Research Director to succeed Brett Neilson. Amanda Third was named Deputy Research Director; Flora Zhong was appointed Senior Research Officer; and Michelle Kelly returned to the position of Research Officer.

A main feature of the year in review was the strong impulse to develop a new research operational framework for the Institute. A significant landmark of 2017 was the submission of a new *Institute Research and Operational Plan 2018–2020*, which is part of the new *University Research Plan 2018–2020*. This Research Plan considers the strategies by which ICS will continue to drive a world-class innovative intellectual agenda in socio-cultural research on topics of relevance to our immediate region as well as nationally and globally. Furthermore, the Plan outlines how ICS will expand its focus on and engagement with industry, government, businesses, NGOs, community organisations, capturing more effectively our research partners' voices and being attentive to what our current and potential partners are interested in doing with us. The Plan also considers the importance of consolidating our Higher Degree Research Program by promoting more actively our research strengths within established local, national and global networks.

ICS researchers including Donald McNeill, Amanda Third and Juan Francisco Salazar played a pivotal role in the Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) Impact and Engagement Pilot project led by the Office of the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research and Innovation). Of the 22 University projects selected, four were ICS projects including Circles of Sustainability (led by Paul James); Young and Well (led by Amanda Third); Hot Science Global Citizens (led by Fiona Cameron); and Indigenous (led by Louise Crabtree).

During 2017 the Institute continued to operate with four inter-related research programs: Cities and Economies, Digital Life, Diversity and Globalisation, and Heritage and Environment. Discussions conducted within and between these programs were important in identifying new possibilities of research collaboration, both within ICS and with industry, government and global partners. As was the case in previous years, a significant effort was made in 2017 to translate our plans into submissions for research funding, both in national competitive grant schemes, and significantly in other categories of external research funding.

Overall, there was an important increase in total research income in 2017 with total funding across Categories 1–4 at \$1,929,000 with around 58 per cent of this accounted as collaborative funding. Overall yearly research income saw an increase of approximately 24 per cent in relation to 2016.

Three new Australian Research Council (ARC) Discovery Projects and one new ARC Linkage Project commenced in 2017 with a total value of \$1,581,000. These were:

- 'Assembling and Governing of Habits', led by Tony Bennet, with Gay Hawkins, Greg Noble and Nikolas Rose (King's College of London): \$360,500.
- 'The China-Australia Heritage Corridor', led by Denis Byrne with Ien Ang: \$298,500.
- 'Volumetric Urbanism', led by Donald McNeill with Simon Marvin (The University of Sheffield): \$403,500.
- 'Antarctic Cities and the Global Commons: Rethinking the Gateways', led by Juan Francisco Salazar, with Paul James, Elizabeth Leane (University of Tasmania), Liam Magee, Tim Short (Hobart City Council), Daniela Liggett (University of Canterbury), Elias Barticevic (Chilean Antarctic Institute), Claudia Estrada (University of Magallanes): \$519,335.

In addition, ICS researchers were awarded two new ARC Discovery Projects in 2017 to commence in 2018. These were:

- 'UNESCO and the Making of Global Cultural Policy', led by Deborah Stevenson, with Justin O'Connor (Monash University), Christiaan De Beukelaer (University of Melbourne), Yudhishtir Isar (American University of Paris), Constance DeVereaux (Colorado State University), Jun Wang (City University of Hong Kong) and Avril Joffe (University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa): \$435,599.
- 'New Public Management, Aboriginal Organisations and Indigenous Rights', (administered by the Australian National University), Deirdre Howard-Wagner and Janet Hunt (the Australian National University), and Karen Soldatic: \$299,108.



In 2017, ICS researchers were also successful for the first time in National Healthy Medical Research Council (NHMRC) funding to start in 2018:

- Philippa Collin will co-direct with Angus Dawson (University of Sydney) a stream of research in a newly established Centre of Research Excellence in Adolescent Health: Making Health Services Work for Adolescents in a Digital Age (\$2,496,295 over five years). Amanda Third is an associate investigator in the project.

Aside from this ongoing success in national competitive grants, ICS researchers continued to attract other sources of external research funding. This includes a three-fold increase in Category 2 funding and close to a two-fold increase in Category 3 funding. In 2017, 17 new contract research and consultancy projects (including Linkage Projects) have been funded, bringing in a total income of \$636,916.00 showing a steady increase in the last triennium. Some of these projects included:

- 'Valuing Adaptive Re-Use of Heritage Buildings', Donald McNeill and Dallas Rogers (University of Sydney), Funded by Urban Growth NSW: \$39,968.
- 'Urban Food Economies: Rethinking Value for "More-Than-Capitalist" Futures', Katherine Gibson, Seedbox: \$26,420.
- 'Connected City Data Hub, Sarah Barns', \$25,000, funded by Urban Growth NSW.
- 'Mapping the Educational Experiences of Refugee Students', Megan Watkins and Greg Noble, \$148,458, funded by NSW Teachers Federation.
- 'Understanding Drivers of Public Trust in Sydney Water and Investigating and Trialing Strategies', Gay Hawkins, Abby Lopes, Ben Dibley and Zoe Sofoulis, \$109,386, funded by Sydney Water.
- 'Smart, Skilled, Hired and Diverse' (three-year project), Philippa Collin, Michelle Catanzaro (School of Humanities and Communication Arts at Western Sydney University) and Teresa Swist, \$90,690, funded by NavitasEnglish.
- 'A Venues and Infrastructure Needs Analysis for the City of Sydney', Ien Ang,

David Rowe and Liam Magee, \$66,060, funded by the City of Sydney.

- 'Young people's Voices: UNICEF's State of the World's Children', Amanda Third and Girish Lala, \$31,560, funded by UNICEF.
- 'Valuing and Diversifying Cooperative Housing', Louise Crabtree, Emma Power and Neil Perry (School of Business at Western Sydney University), \$22,727, funded by Common Equity NSW.
- 'Research and Co-Design of a Peer Mentoring Scheme for Refugee Youth', Philippa Collin and Teresa Swist, \$19,891, funded by Multicultural Youth Affairs Network NSW.

ICS researchers published and edited several important monographs and collections in 2017, which are outlined in detail later in this Annual Review. In addition to these academic publications, 19 ICS researchers and school-base members published 38 articles in *The Conversation*, reaching more than 330,000 national and international readers.

It was also an important year for ICS's internationalisation and research engagement efforts, which focus on the Institute's named strategic sites. These activities play themselves out through many different collaborations and visits, and there some particularly important initiatives worth mentioning:

- In July, ICS was a co-host of the Ecocity World Summit, the largest-ever gathering of urban sustainability researchers in Australia's history. Former US Vice President Al Gore was the Principal Speaker at the Summit, which was held in Melbourne between 12 and 14 July with Paul James as a core member of the organising committee. Katherine Gibson was a keynote speaker and Donald McNeill a featured speaker. A further six ICS research staff and students presented in the Academic Stream. ICS researchers also contributed to a concurrent article series on the Summit published by *The Conversation*.
- In September, ICS members came together at IPSQ for the 2017 ICS Research Caucus. Researchers discussed the challenges and opportunities facing the Institute over the next five years, including maintaining ICS's ERA standing, and further developing the

Institute's relationship with industry and with other academic units in the University. Representatives from UrbanGrowth NSW, Create NSW and Dimension Data Australia gave presentations which situated the interests and priorities of industry research partners today.

- In November, ICS organised its third Knowledge/Culture conference series with the Knowledge/Culture/Ecologies International conference in Santiago, Chile. Fifteen ICS researchers presented at this conference which was organised in partnership with Chilean partners Universidad Diego Portales, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Centro de Estudios de Conflicto y Cohesión Social (Coes) y Núcleo Milenio de Investigación Energía y Sociedad. ICS researchers Katherine Gibson and Gay Hawkins were among the ten keynote speakers. The Conference had 318 presenters from 32 countries and 179 organisations and institutions including 119 universities, NGOs, independent artists, and activists.

Other global engagements included our continued collaboration with Linköping University, Sweden. Fiona Cameron was awarded a visiting professorial position for six months to work on a three-year project 'In Orbit: When Museum Collections Go Online' funded by the Bank of Sweden. Brett Neilson and Ned Rossiter continued their work as international partners with the Centre for Digital Cultures, Leuphana University which in 2017 included ICS staff and students to be invited as visiting fellows, and Paul James and Liam Magee worked closely with the Berlin Senate Department for the Environment, Transport and Climate Protection. The collaborations with Germany and Chile were strong during 2017. These two countries were the sites where ICS chose to organise its Knowledge/Culture conference series in 2017 and 2018.

ICS's research engagement not only grew internationally in 2017 but also locally. This was supported by ICS's vigorous program of research workshops, symposia and conferences. Apart from another successful year of ICS seminars, other significant local events during 2017 included:



- Conversations for a Future/City
- 2016 Census Data Seminar
- Symposium — When South is North: Contemporary Art and Culture in South Asia and Australia
- Thinking the Digital: Children, Young People and Digital Practice
- Resilience Panel at University Research Week
- The 2017 State of the World's Children Report Launch — Children in A Digital World.

Other most significant measures of ICS's research excellence are awards and recognitions our researchers received in 2017.

- Katherine Gibson was named as the Distinguished Scholar for 2018 by the American Association of Geographers.
- Philippa Collin was awarded first place in the University's Research Impact Competition during University Research Week, for her work on changing the debate on young people and technology.
- Alex Wong's paper, 'Public perceptions of foreign and Chinese real estate investment: Intercultural relations in global Sydney', co-authored with D Rogers and J Nelson, won the Dorothy R. Taylor Award for the best paper published in Australian Geographer in 2017.
- Liam Magee and Teresa Swist's Kolorob App was named 'Champion' in the 'Inclusion and Empowerment' category of Bangladesh's National Mobile Application Award. Liam and Teresa have worked with Save the Children Australia and its Kolorob project since 2015, supporting design and software development, evaluation methodology and research publication and dissemination.

Beyond this recognition, and within Western Sydney University, ICS's research excellence was also recognised through the continuing service of two of its researchers to the ARC College of Experts. Donald McNeill (member of the Social, Behavioural and Economic Sciences panel) and Ned Rossiter

(in the Humanities and Creative Arts panel). This comes to complement the sustained work that three ICS researchers provide as Western Sydney University's Research Theme Champions in leading cross-disciplinary research and practice across the university: Juan Francisco Salazar (with Jeff Powell from the Hawkesbury Institute for the Environment) in the Environment and Sustainability theme; Donald McNeill (with Andrew Gorman-Murray from the School of Social Sciences and Psychology) in the Urban Living and Society theme; and Amanda Third (with Caroline Smith) in the Health and Wellbeing theme.

ICS membership has continued to expand as we seek new modes of collaborations with other Institutes, Research Centres and Schools in the university. The number of School-based members as of 2017 raised to 24, with the ICS Research Committee endorsing five new school-based members to start in 2018:

- Kylie Budge, School of Humanities and Communication Arts. Kylie's research interests are in digital and material cultures of art and design; cultural institutions, their audiences and social media; cultures of making; identity; creativity; cultural theory and theories of value.
- Kiu-wai Chu, Australia-China Institute for Arts and Culture. Kiu-wai's research focuses on environmental humanities, ecocriticism, and cinema and visual arts in Chinese contexts.
- Keith Parry, School of Business. Keith's research interests are broadly based around the study of sport, with a focus on sports fandom and the spectator experience.
- Rae Duffy-Jones, School of Social Sciences and Psychology. Rae is an economic and social geographer who has expertise in the governance of mobility and its relationship to public policy (specifically housing, regional development and internal migration).

- Youqin Fan, Lecturer in Human Resource Management in the School of Business who works in corporate social responsibility in China, labor market dynamics in relation to demography, and green supply chains.

The short term-future looks auspicious for the ICS with several areas of growing interest across research, engagement and internationalisation. I welcome everyone to celebrate the achievements of 2017, to reboot our collective sensibilities to developing research that matters, and to look into the future with renewed optimism.

**Associate Professor Juan Francisco Salazar**  
**ICS Research Director**



Image taken by ICS PhD alum, Dr Andrea Del Bono, of an approaching train at Flinders Street Station, Melbourne, Australia.



## ICS Research Staff Activity



### KAY ANDERSON

**Professor Kay Anderson**, in her fractional capacity at ICS, continued work on the Australian Research Council Linkage Project 'Sydney's Chinatown in the Asian Century: From Ethnic Enclave to Global Hub', publishing a chapter in the edited volume 'Trans-Pacific Mobilities: The Chinese and Canada' (UBC Press, 2017) titled 'Chinatown Unbound' and drafting a manuscript based on the project.



### IEN ANG

In 2017 **Professor Ien Ang** published two book chapters and two refereed journal articles, and co-authored the research report, *Mapping Culture: Venues and Infrastructure in the City of Sydney*. A follow-up study was subsequently commissioned by the City of Sydney, focusing on 'Planning Cultural Creation and Production in the City of Sydney'. Together with Denis Byrne, she commenced research on the ARC-funded project on 'The Australia China Heritage Corridor', conducting fieldwork in Zhongshan, China, in December. She hosted the international conference 'When South is North: Contemporary Art and Culture in South Asia and Australia', in collaboration with the 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art, held in Parramatta in August. She was a keynote speaker at the European Association for Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies conference at the University of Oviedo, Spain, in April; she was an invited speaker at the international conference on biennales convened by the Singapore Art Museum and the Singapore Management University (January) and the Trans-Asia Symposium held at the Monash Prato Centre in Prato, Italy (June). She also participated in the ARC project 'Australian Cultural Fields', under the leadership of Tony Bennett, focusing specifically on ethnicity and cultural consumption (in collaboration with Greg Noble). Professor Ang was on long-service leave for three months of the year.



### SARAH BARNs

**Dr Sarah Barns** was appointed Engaged Research Fellow by ICS in April 2017. Dr Barns worked collaboratively over the year to develop a series of research initiatives and publications with organisations spanning the City of Parramatta, Urban Growth NSW/ Landcom, the Committee for Sydney, CSIRO's Data 61, Celestino and Arup. In the context of wide-range urban transformation initiatives underway in Sydney, she developed a series of presentations and strategic advisory reports that address approaches to creative placemaking, smart technologies and innovation precincts in Western Sydney. Her research was published in *Urban Policy & Research*, *FibreCulture Journal* and *City Culture and Society*. This work built on her postdoctoral research fellowship funded by the Urban Studies Foundation, which addressed the rise of platform technologies and their implications for urban strategic design and placemaking. Dr Barns continued to champion the importance of urban digital publics through invited presentations at Vivid Sydney's Digital Publics Symposium, Monash University's Smart Cities/Creative Cities Symposium, the Australian Centre for Contemporary Arts, a keynote presentation to SGS Economics and Planning at the Museum of Sydney. Dr Barns also published a series of articles for *The Conversation*.





## TONY BENNETT

**Professor Tony Bennett's** research focused mainly on his convening roles in relation to two Australian Research Council Discovery projects, 'Australian Cultural Fields' and 'Assembling and Governing Habits'. Work on the first of these was directed toward publications based on data produced by the project's survey of Australians' cultural tastes and activities. This resulted in the completion of one co-authored book chapter on arts tastes and practices, a chapter on the social dynamics of the Australian art field, and two co-authored journal articles, one on television viewing practices and the second on the cultural practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders. Work on the second project, begun in mid-2017, principally concerned the relations between habit, attention and the governance of conduct. Professor Bennett also continued to develop his interests in museum studies, completing the manuscript for a new book, *Museums, Power, Knowledge: Selected Essays*. He was a Visiting Professor at the Centre for Anthropological Research on Museums and Heritage at Humboldt University in Berlin, where he gave a number of public lectures. Elected by Leiden's Foundation for Ethnology as its 2017 Laureate, Professor Bennett delivered its annual Adriaan Gerbrands Lecture at the Museum Volkenkunde in Leiden.



## DENIS BYRNE

Senior Research Fellow **Dr Denis Byrne** continued researching links between the built environments of the 'home villages' of people who migrated to Australia from Zhongshan (Guangdong) in the mid-nineteenth century and their places of settlement in Australia. As Chief Investigator for the ARC-funded project, 'The China-Australia Heritage Corridor', he carried out fieldwork in Zhongshan in December 2017, along with other members of the project team, recording numerous buildings constructed or renovated by Australian members of the Zhongshan diaspora. As part of his commitment to a post-nationalist approach to the heritage of migration, he contributed an article to the *Journal of Contemporary Archaeology's* special issue on *Archaeologies of Forced and Undocumented Migration*. He also pursued his investigation of coastal reclamations and seawalls as type fossils of the Anthropocene, inspecting sites in Jakarta and on the north coast of Bali. He published his first case study for this project — on the Elizabeth Bay reclamation on Sydney Harbour — in the journal *Environmental Humanities*. As a member of Linköping University's Seed Box collaboratory in the environmental humanities, he contributed a piece on seawalls in Japan for *The Seed Box Blog*. He co-convened a panel, Concrete in the Anthropocene, for the Knowledge/Culture/Environment Conference in Santiago in November 2017.



## FIONA CAMERON

In 2017, **Dr Fiona Cameron** published a multi-authored monograph entitled, *Collecting, Ordering, Governing: Anthropology and Liberal Government* with Duke University Press, and submitted a sole-authored monograph with MIT Press entitled, *Theorizing Digital Data as Heritages* which is set for release in 2018. She conducted archival research in the Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand for her project, 'Te Ao Hou: Transforming worlds in New Zealand 1900–1950' and was also successful in two grant applications. Dr Cameron conducted work for two editorial boards, the *Museum History Journal* and *Computer Games Journal*. She was an invited international assessor for the Canadian Research Council and the European Science Foundation.



### PHILIPPA COLLIN

In 2017 **Dr Philippa Collin** co-led (with Amanda Third) the creation of the Young and Resilient Living Lab to co-research and design technology-based strategies to promote the resilience of young people and communities. The Foundation Project, funded by a Western Sydney University (WSU) partnership grant with Google, involved 13 WSU scholars and 100 individuals and organisations. Dr Collin was also Chief Investigator on lab-associated industry/community partnership projects looking at the settlement and work experiences of recently arrived and refugee young people in Greater Western Sydney, young people's online ethical decision-making and National Health and Medical Research Council Centre for Research Excellence in Adolescent Health. She co-authored two scholarly publications with two additional book chapters and a co-authored manuscript forthcoming in 2018. In 2017, Dr Collin was appointed to the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Raising Children Network and the advisory board for the TopBlokes Foundation. She continued as a member of the Smith Family Digital Futures Advisory Committee, the cross-sector Technology and Wellbeing Roundtable (co-convened by Telstra Foundation and Reachout.com) and as a judge for the Whitlam Institute's What Matters School Essay Competition. In 2017, Dr Collin won the Western Sydney University Research Impact competition.



### ANDREA CONNOR

Postdoctoral researcher **Dr Andrea Connor** joined ICS mid-way through 2017 to work with Donald McNeill on the Australia Research Council Discovery Grant, 'Volumetric Urbanism'. She conducted fieldwork at Barangaroo investigating aspects of the sites re-development including design logics, governance and the financialisation of the development process through a private-public partnership model. She also began research on the emerging People Movement Industry and its work in optimising people flow in major transport hubs and growing influence in shaping volumetric sites for value maximisation. In November, Dr Connor attended the Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat Conference and co-convened a daylong workshop on the theme of Volumetric Urbanism. In 2017, she published a research monograph with Routledge entitled, *The Political Afterlife of Sites of Monumental Destruction: Reconstructing Affect in Mostar and New York*. Based on her PhD, the book traced the afterlife of the Mostar Bridge in Bosnia and the World Trade Centre in New York, arguing for a more expansive and processual notion of reconstruction. It should, she argued, encompass not only the material and symbolic afterlife of both things but also their affecting afterlives and ongoing re-assemblage in the present.



### LOUISE CRABTREE

In 2017 **Dr Louise Crabtree** continued her work on the project, 'Keeping Strong through Mobiles: Strengths-Based Approaches to Social and Emotional Health for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Young People Using Mobile Technology' with Amanda Third, Emma Keltie and Rachel Hendery. The team co-authored a major report with researchers from Tangentyere Council, and drafted a report on the research within the University for review by the Elders on Campus. Dr Crabtree continued work on 'Community Land Trust Research Project Phase 2' with Carolyn Sappideen and Peter Phibbs, and completed 'Youth Koori Court Assessment' with Melissa Williams, David Tait and Mythily Meher. She published two articles in *The Conversation*. As the Institute's Director of Engagement, Dr Crabtree drafted the Institute's approach to impact, which was adapted for publication in *Australian Geographer*. She had a Thinking Space piece on property, transition, and resilience published in *CITY*, convened and taught the Masters Unit *Developing Sustainable Places*, and spoke at over a dozen public, community, and sector events on affordable housing. Dr Crabtree continued to work with the Office of the Pro Vice Chancellor, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership on the development of appropriate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander research practice in the University.



## BEN DIBLEY

In 2017 Research Fellow **Dr Ben Dibley** commenced research on the 'Governing and Assembling Habits', an Australian Research Council Discovery project with Tony Bennett, Gay Hawkins, Greg Noble and Nikolas Rose. He continued working on publications associated with his role on the Australian Research Council Discovery project, 'Australian Cultural Fields' led by Tony Bennett; and on a book manuscript with Gay Hawkins, the main output of the ARC Linkage project, 'Making Animals Public: The Changing Role of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation in Building Public Value and Interest in Wildlife Documentary'. Over the year, with Gay Hawkins, Abby Mellick Lope and Zoë Sofoulis, Dr Dibley also completed a contract research project, 'Understanding the Drivers of Public Trust in Sydney Water'. He continued his work on the Anthropocene with a paper presented at the Knowledge/Culture/Ecologies: International Conference in Santiago, Chile.



## KATHERINE GIBSON

**Professor Katherine Gibson** was invited to present lectures at universities and community gatherings in Europe, South Korea and Chile during 2017. She presented the 10th Ted Wheelwright Lecture at the University of Sydney and represented ICS as a plenary panellist at the 2017 Eco-City World Summit in Melbourne and as a Keynote Speaker at the Knowledge/Culture/Ecology Conference. She conducted fieldwork in Australia and Europe as part of her project, 'Reconfiguring the Enterprise: Shifting manufacturing Cultures in Australia'. She co-organised a Swedish Environmental Humanities Seed Box Workshop on Urban Food Economies; Rethinking Value for More-Than-Capitalist Futures in Italy and co-organised the Antipode Scholar-Activist Workshops on Redrawing the Economy at University of Seoul and University of Jeonnam, Gwangju, South Korea. Three of her PhD students graduated in 2017. The Spanish translation by William Enrique Sánchez Amézquita and Maria Juliana Flórez Flórez of her co-authored book *Take Back the Economy* was published by Instituto Pensar, Bogota, Colombia and launched at the Knowledge/Culture/Ecology conference by Arturo Escobar. Along with other members of the Community Economies Collective she published the invited essay *Cultivating Community Economies: Tools for Building a Liveable World* as part of the U.S.-based The Next System Project.



## GAY HAWKINS

In 2017 **Professor Gay Hawkins** led a team of ICS researchers on a project for Sydney Water investigating 'The Drivers of Trust in Drinking Water'. This project produced a series of discussion papers on key issues affecting trust in utilities, the nature of civic trust in the age of customerisation, and the drinking practices of Mandarin speakers. She also commenced an Australian Research Council Discovery project, 'Assembling and Governing Urban Habits' with Tony Bennett, Ben Dibley and Greg Noble. She presented a keynote address to a conference on Waste: What's in the Bin? at Lund University in Sweden. She presented a keynote conference address on 'The Lives and Afterlives of Plastic', organised by Massey University, New Zealand. In September, she travelled to Lapland to present a keynote at an EU-funded conference on 'Living Ethics: Ethics for a More Than Human World'. In November, she was part of a large team of colleagues who travelled to Santiago, Chile to participate in the Knowledge, Cultures, Ecologies conference. At this major international event, she presented in a plenary panel on Environmental Objects. Professor Hawkins also published two peer reviewed papers and two book chapters related to her ARC project 'The Skin of Commerce.'





## STEPHEN HEALY

2017 was a prolific year of research, publications and conference participation for **Dr Stephen Healy**. He had nine articles published or accepted for publication in journals such as *Antipode*, *Arena*, *Journal of Law and Society*, and *Geoforum*. With Jo McNeill, Katherine Gibson, and Jenny Cameron, Dr Healy completed the second year of their Australia Research Council project focused on the future of manufacturing. The research team is currently jointly preparing a paper to be delivered as an Annual Roepke lecture in the US at the American Association of Geographers, and have a forthcoming co-authored piece in *Australian Quarterly*. Dr Healy (with Jo McNeill) testified before the Senate Inquiry on the Future of Work at Parliament House, Sydney. Their testimony, was part of a panel of five and that were selected from among 85 testimonials to give a presentation on research findings. Dr Healy presented at the Association of Geography conference, the EcoCity Summit in Melbourne, the second New Economy Conference, and delivered at keynote address for the 'Everything's Connected' Conference, organised by the Green Institute. He presented at the Knowledge, Culture, Ecology Conference in Santiago. Finally, he co-organised and presented in a 'diverse economies' track at the ISRC 9th International Social Innovation Research Conference in Melbourne.



## BOB HODGE



## PAUL JAMES

Most of **Professor Paul James's** research time and engagement went into further developing the *Circles of Social Life* approach, researching the structural terms of the 'Principles for Better Cities' and investigating the basis for a connectivity index for Antarctic cities. This included work as Scientific Advisor to the Senate Department for Urban Development and the Environment, Berlin (2014–present). The research was linked to the engagement plan of the Institute, which included Berlin as one of ten global sites in which the Institute is focussing its work. Of the five chapters and articles that he published in 2017, perhaps the most innovative was a long essay on 'Culture' exploring the relationship between that concept and globalization and development. This entailed an extensive research side-track into an archaeology of the concept of 'the economy'. As he argued, although we now reify 'the economy' and 'the market' as active (anthropomorphised) agents, there was no significant use of those concepts until the early part of the twentieth century — even by Adam

Smith and the early political economists. This research was complementary to a more polemical critique he developed of both post-humanism and triple-bottom-line attempts to understand sustainability.



## LIAM MAGEE



## DONALD MCNEILL

**Professor Donald McNeill** focused on three areas of research during 2017. He initiated his Australian Research Council Discovery grant on, 'Volumetric Urbanism', working with partner investigator Simon Marvin, and new appointment Andrea Connor as postdoctoral fellow. He presented an initial overview at the Council of Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat conference in Sydney in November. Second, he completed two review projects for UrbanGrowth NSW on adaptive re-use of heritage buildings; and autonomous vehicles, with colleagues from other universities. Third, he authored a literature review on success and failure factors of innovation precincts for the NSW Innovation and Productivity Council. He supervised doctoral candidates as they progressed their dissertations on urban planning and climate change

adaptation; the spatiality of cryptocurrencies; social entrepreneurship in Cape Town; and gender and urban space in Istanbul. He continued as an assessor on the ARC College of Experts, on the Social, Behavioural and Economic Sciences panel. He was also appointed Chair of the Urban Studies Foundation, an educational trust which administers income from *Urban Studies* journal, and chaired its international post-doctoral fellowship scheme which made four awards in 2017.



## BRETT NEILSON

**Professor Brett Neilson** continued work on two Australian Research Council Discovery projects in 2017. His project, 'Logistics as Global Governance' (with Ned Rossiter) involved organisation of team research in Chile to investigate logistics in the port of Valparaíso. For 'Data Centres and the Governance of Territory and Labour' (with Ned Rossiter and Tanya Notley), this involved organisation of research in Singapore and Hong Kong. In partnership with researchers from Leuphana University, Professor Neilson (with Ned Rossiter) also initiated a new project entitled 'Between Migration and Logistics'. He delivered keynote addresses at the Otago Foreign Policy School and the 'Digital Media and Borders' conference, Lingnan University, Hong Kong. Other invited talks included presentations at The Parliament of Bodies in Athens, part of the Documenta 14 art show, the Platform Capitalism conference at the MACAO social centre, Milano, the School of Law, UNSW, the New Zealand Asia Foundation and the Industrial Revolution 4.0 workshop at the National University of Singapore. Professor Neilson also completed work on two book publications: *The Politics of Operations* (with Sandro Mezzadra) and *Logistical*

*Asia* (edited with Ned Rossiter and Ranabir Samaddar). In wider engagement activities, he participated in a team led by Liam Magee on the future of Australia's National Broadband Network.



## GREG NOBLE

**Professor Greg Noble** focused on several Australian Research Council research projects during 2017. He continued working upon data from the 'Researching Multiculturalism, Reassessing Multicultural Education' project with Megan Watkins and the 'Australian Cultural Fields' project, led by Tony Bennett, which involved working towards publication. Work also began on the 'Assembling and Governing Habits' project, with Tony Bennett, Gay Hawkins, Nikolas Rose and Ben Dibley. He and Megan Watkins were commissioned to undertake research on refugee students for the NSW Teachers Federation. Professor Noble published five book chapters and refereed journal articles, and co-edited the special issue 'After Cronulla' for the *Journal of Intercultural Studies*. He gave several invited presentations during the year, including at events for the Australian Sociological Association and the Oceania Ethnography and Education Network, and a keynote at the Australian Association for Research in Education conference. He was involved in a number of engagement activities, notably a keynote address at the Teachers Federation Multicultural Education and Social Inclusion Conference. Professor Noble stepped down from his role as Higher Degree Research (HDR) Director, but remained responsible for teaching matters at ICS. He continued to supervise a large number of HDR students and to teach a unit in the Master of Research.



## SHANTHI ROBERTSON

**Dr Shanthi Robertson** continued work on her two Australian Research Council projects in 2017, 'Staggered Pathways: Temporality, Mobility and Asian Temporary Migrants in Australia' and 'Understanding the Effects of Transnational Mobility on Youth Transitions'. She published four refereed journal articles and co-edited a Special Issue in the *Journal of Migration, Mobility and Displacement*. Dr Robertson contributed to media debates on changes to citizenship legislation, migration industry fraud and multicultural demographics with two interviews on SBS television and two media articles in *The Conversation* and *World Politics Review*. She presented her research at several conferences and seminars throughout the year, including the American Sociological Association Annual General Meeting in Montreal, the ACSIS Mobilizing Cultural Studies Conference in Linköping, Sweden, the Australian Sociological Association Conference in Perth and a seminar at the Migrants@Work Research Group at Sydney University. Dr Robertson led the Diversity and Globalisation Research Program in 2017. The program supported several research events with key partners and collaborators, including a symposium on indigenous-settler relations, the launch of the report 'Mapping Culture: Venues and Infrastructure in the City of Sydney' and a joint conference with the 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art. Dr Robertson also served throughout 2017 as Treasurer on the Executive of the Australian Sociological Association.

**NED ROSSITER**

research and scholarship throughout the year, publishing six articles in *The Conversation*, and commenting in print, broadcast and online media, including *Al Jazeera*, *Bloomberg*, *Macau Daily Times*, *ABC*, *New Daily*, *Courier Mail*, and *The Daily Telegraph*. Emeritus Professor Rowe also presented several media training workshops for early career researchers and higher-degree research candidates.

**TIM ROWSE**

**Emeritus Professor Tim Rowse's** primary task was to finish work on a book that he has been writing since 2010: *Indigenous and other Australians since 1901*. By July 2017 he was working with a copy editor, in detailed revision of the manuscript, and by the end of August he had compiled an index on the basis of page-proofs. The book was published in November 2017. As well, he continued to participate in the 'Australian Cultural Fields' project: drafting passages to be included in the book, *Fields, Capitals, Habitus: Culture and Social Relations in Contemporary Australia*; and editing (with Laurie Bamblett and Fred Myers) a book based on the July 2016 workshop *The Difference that Identity Makes* (submitted to Aboriginal Studies Press in January 2018). With Anna Pertierra, he wrote a paper based on the 'Australian Cultural Fields' project interview data about the ways that white Australians now talk about Indigenous Australia, submitted to the *Journal of Sociology*. In 2017, he was active, in various ways, in his Academy Fellowships (Humanities and Social Sciences), and continued to serve on the Executive of the Australian Historical Association.

**JUAN FRANCISCO SALAZAR****Associate Professor Juan Francisco**

**Salazar** was appointed Research Director of the Institute for 2017–2018. He holds a joint position in the School of Humanities and Communication Arts and is a University Research Theme Champion (Environment and Sustainability) in the Office of the Depute Vice Chancellor (Research and Innovation). During 2017 he was Lead Chief Investigator in the Australian Research Council Linkage Project, 'Antarctic Cities and the Global Commons: Rethinking the Gateways', conducting extensive work with Paul James, Liam Magee and partner investigators in Hobart, Christchurch (New Zealand) and Punta Arenas (Chile). Associate Professor Salazar completed filming *The Bamboo Bridge* in Cambodia, a documentary he is collaborating on with Katherine Gibson to be released in late 2018. He was principal convener of the highly successful Knowledge Culture Ecologies International Conference in Santiago de Chile. He published five journal articles and five book chapters over the year, as well as the edited book, *Anthropologies and Futures: Researching Emerging and Uncertain Worlds* (Bloomsbury 2017) and co-edited Special Issues for three journals: *Futures*; *Environmental Humanities*; and *The Polar Journal*. His article for *The Conversation* on his new work on environmental conflict and peacebuilding in Colombia earned him an invitation to take part in the StoryLab initiative in the UK funded by the Thomson Reuters Foundation, the Stanley Foundation, and Gerda Henkel Stiftung.

**DAVID ROWE**

**Emeritus Professor David Rowe** published five book chapters and one research report in 2017. He was an invited participant at a Copyright Society of Australia Panel at King & Wood Mallesons in Sydney (March), presenting research papers at the Publishing and Mediatization Workshop, the Advanced Cultural Studies Institute of Sweden, Linköping University, Sweden; the Leisure Studies Association Annual Conference, Leeds, UK; the International Association for Media and Communication Research Conference, Cartagena, Colombia; and the Department for Health Seminar, 'Arts, Culture and Social Change', University of Bath, UK. He was an invited participant at 'Golden Games: Sport and Diplomacy in East Asia and Beyond' Conference, Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore. The title of Emeritus Professor was conferred on David at a graduation ceremony in December, at which he gave the Occasional Address. He was very active in public communication of his





### KAREN SOLDATIC

In 2017 **Dr Karen Soldatic** largely focused on her Australian Research Council Discovery Early Career Researcher Award examining the impact of Australian disability pension reforms for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples living with disability in regional centres. Dr Soldatic spent extensive time with numerous disability and Indigenous organisations in the Kimberley region and down the South Coast corridor between Wollongong and Batemans Bay. This work informed the successful development of an ARC Discovery led by colleagues at the Australian National University on 'New Public Management, Aboriginal Organisations, and Indigenous Rights'. In addition to this work, she collaborated with colleagues in Indonesia, Dina Afrianty and Arief Subhan, to co-convene the inaugural Disability and Diversity in Muslim Societies Conference in Jakarta, November 2017, supported by the Asia Foundation (Program Peduli) and State Islamic University (UIN) Jakarta, and the Ministry of Religious Affairs. The conference is the outcome of over two years of research, educational development and training in disability inclusive methodologies with Indonesian researchers and scholars. Dr Soldatic's long-term research with rural disabled women's advocacy groups in the post-conflict areas of Sri Lanka was also sustained throughout this period.



### DEBORAH STEVENSON,

In 2017, **Professor Deborah Stevenson** finalised the Australian Research Council Linkage project, 'Recalibrating Culture: Production, Consumption, Policy', with the launch of the co-authored report of the same name. She led a successful ARC Discovery application for a project entitled 'UNESCO and the Making of Global Cultural Policy', undertook research for the 'Australian Cultural Fields' Discovery Project, and was a member of the team contracted to examine cultural infrastructure for the City of Sydney. In addition, she accepted invitations to speak at the University of Bath (in her capacity as Honorary Professor), and at the Future of Cultural Policy symposium, Edinburgh; the Social Theory Politics and the Arts conference, Minneapolis; the Cultural Economy Futures symposium, Melbourne; and the Interpretative Policy Analysis conference, Leicester. She co-edited the *Routledge Urban Media Companion* and had papers accepted or published by: *The International Journal of Cultural Policy*; *Geographical Research*; *Journal of Sociology*; *Making Culture: Commercialisation, Transnationalism, and the State of 'Nationing' in Contemporary Australia* (Routledge); and the *Handbook of Feminisms in Sport, Leisure and Physical Education* (Palgrave). Also published were the paperback edition of her book *Cities of Culture: A Global Perspective* (Routledge), and the Polish translation of her Polity book *The City*.



### MALINI SUR

In 2017, Senior Research Fellow **Dr Malini Sur**, authored six publications, comprising refereed journal articles, edited books, and articles in popular publications. This included a collaborative special issue on construction sites in Asian cities drawing on her recent research on urban space and environment in the journal *City*. Her recently completed documentary film, *Life Cycle*, exploring the relationship between bicycling and cities was screened at the Crawford School of Public Policy and South Asia Institute (Australian National University), Victoria University Wellington, and the Universidad Diego Portales, Santiago, Chile. Her research on bicycling cultures in India and Australia was published in *The Conversation and Scroll*. Dr Sur continues to work on the Northeast India-Bangladesh border and South Asian asylum seekers in Europe. She has presented this work in invited conferences and seminars at the University of Sydney, the Australian National University, the New Zealand India Research Institute and the National University of Singapore. As a part of her commitment to public anthropology, she advises the Seagull Foundation for their Peaceworks program in South Asia.



## TERESA SWIST

In 2017, **Dr Teresa Swist** was Engaged Research Fellow. She was part of the Living Lab Foundation initiative, as well as projects affiliated with the Young and Resilient Living Lab. Activities included co-creating a peer-mentoring scheme with refugee young people, as well as exploring young people's conceptions of ethics and decision-making in online environments. Together with other ICS colleagues, Dr Swist contributed to the second phase of a project for the City of Sydney, exploring cultural creation and production in Sydney. For Penrith City Council, she collaborated with Sheree Gregory to explore the barriers and opportunities for sustaining local employment in two Greater Western Sydney business parks. In addition, an Urban Living and Society seed grant supported a workshop to explore how libraries are innovating their services, spaces and collections to meet the needs of diverse communities. Dr Swist continued her role as co-organiser of the Random Hacks of Kindness Western Sydney hackathon events, as well as advisor for the Kolorob project. Over 2017 she presented at the Ecocity World Summit, Philosophy of Education Society Australasia Conference, and the Philosophy of Higher Education Conference. Her articles were published in *New Media and Society*, as well as *Communication and the Public*.



## AMANDA THIRD

In 2017, **Associate Professor Amanda Third** worked alongside Philippa Collin, Liam Magee, a team of Western Sydney researchers and over 100 organisations and individuals from across sectors in a project to create an action plan for the newly established Intergener8 Living Lab, an open innovation entity that leverages technology to build intergenerational resilience in Greater Western Sydney. Associate Professor Third's work focused primarily on the issue of children's rights in the digital age, contributing to the University's efforts to deliver on their commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals. In partnership with UNICEF's State of the World's Children team in New York and UNICEF Country Offices and National Committees internationally, and with the support of ICS researchers, Delphine Bellerose and Girish Lala, she led a study with 500 children in 26 countries to document their experiences of life in the digital age. The results were published in UNICEF's flagship 2017 *State of the World's Children* report. She co-edited a special issue in *New Media and Society*, on 'Children's Rights in the Digital Age'. She delivered keynote addresses at three international conferences. Associate Professor Third continued in her role as WSU's Health and Wellbeing Research Theme Champion.



## EMMA WATERTON

**Associate Professor Emma Waterton** divided her attention across four research areas in 2017. She continued to explore the relationship between heritage, emotion and affect, which found expression in a number of book chapters and journal articles. She expanded her interests in contemporary engagements with heritage through the analysis and dissemination of data produced through the Australian Research Council project, 'Australian Cultural Fields'. She continued her activities in rural Nepal, in collaboration with the Himalayan Exploration and Archaeological Research Team, focusing on the development of a 'heritage trail' due for completion in late 2018. Finally, she commenced a new project examining the cultural landscapes of Genghis Khan, Mongolia, with support from the Landscape Research Group. Throughout 2017 Associate Professor Waterton focussed her publication efforts on the coordination of three co-edited collections with Routledge: the *Routledge Companion to Landscape Studies* (second edition); *Making Culture: Commercialization, Transnationalism and the State of 'Nationing' in Contemporary Australia; and Affective Geographies of Transformation, Exploration and Adventure*. She continued to serve on the Editorial Boards for the *International Journal of Heritage Studies*, *Sustainability* and the *Journal of Heritage Tourism*, and took up the role of Associate Editor for *Landscape Research*.



## MEGAN WATKINS

In 2017 **Associate Professor Megan Watkins** continued her work investigating Asian migration and its impact on educational cultures which saw the publication of a double special issue of the *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*. She has published two articles around Bourdieu's work together with working on the Australian Cultural Field's project examining data on education and cultural capital for a forthcoming publication. Along with Greg Noble, she was commissioned by the NSW Teachers' Federation to conduct research into the plight of refugee students in NSW schools. The 'Mapping the Educational Experiences of Refugee Students' project will collect data in ten schools and use its findings to inform a report and professional learning materials for NSW teachers. During 2017 Associate Professor Watkins presented keynotes at the NSW Teachers' Federation Multicultural Education and Social Inclusion Conference and the Diversity and Disability Inclusion in Muslim Societies: Experiences from Asia Conference hosted by Syarif Hidayatullah State Islamic University in Jakarta. Other invited presentations include that for the Oceania Ethnography and Education Network Symposium, Deakin University, Melbourne. In 2017, she also assumed the role of the Higher Degrees Research Director overseeing the ICS HDR training program, chairing the ICS HDR Committee and serving on the WSU Research Studies Committee.



## JESSICA WEIR

**Dr Jessica Weir**, in her fractional capacity, lead two Bushfire and Natural Hazards Cooperative Research Centre (BNHCRC) projects. 'Hazards, Culture, and Indigenous Communities' investigates the engagement between the natural hazards sector and Indigenous communities in southern Australia. As part of this project, Dr Weir conducted case-study research and engagement activities with the Murumbung Yurung Murra rangers, traditional owners and natural hazard practitioners in the Canberra region. Dr Weir also worked on finalising and disseminating results from the BNHCRC project 'Scientific Diversity, Scientific Uncertainty, and Risk Mitigation, Policy and Planning' which considered how scientific knowledge and methods are used by bushfire and flood risk mitigation practitioners in southern and northern Australia. In 2017, Dr Weir co-authored a seminal journal article on the steps needed to overhaul Australia's land-management legislation in response to Australia's newest and largest land-holding group, native title holders. This includes re-thinking the 'public good' and how it is expressed in land management regulation.



## ALEXANDRA WONG,

In her fractional capacity at ICS, **Dr Alex Wong** undertook work on three projects, 'Heritage Corridor', a three-year Australian Research Council Discovery project; 'Planning Culture', a consultancy project commissioned by the City of Sydney, and *Five Tribes*, a book project about small business with Scott Holmes as the lead author. Dr Wong continued to produce publications from her previous projects. In 2017, she published three book chapters and two journal articles. Her paper co-authored with Dallas Rogers and Jacqueline Nelson entitled, *Public Perceptions of Foreign and Chinese Real Estate investment: Intercultural Relations in Global Sydney* won the Dorothy R Taylor Award for the best paper published in *Australian Geographer* in 2017. She is currently working on a book with colleagues at ICS entitled *Chinatown Unbounded: Trans-Asian Urbanism in the Age of China* which is due to be published in late 2018 by Rowan & Littlefield International. In 2017, Dr Wong organised an official launch of the 'Mapping Culture' report and a panel with the City of Sydney at 107 Projects in Redfern, which was an over-subscribed event. She also presented a paper at the AusMob Launch Symposium at the University of Melbourne in December.



## ICS School-based Staff Activity



### JAMES ARVANITAKIS

In 2017, **Professor James Arvanitakis** served as the Dean of the Graduate Research School of Western Sydney University. Despite this administrative position, Professor Arvanitakis continued his engaged research. He continued to work on his 'Citizen Scholar' project as well as researching citizenship, globalisation and the impact on young people. In 2017, Professor Arvanitakis worked with a group of Western Sydney University researchers to produce a report looking at the way young people living in Western Sydney reflect on their communities highlighting the rich cultural fabric. Professor Arvanitakis continued his strong media presence with regular segments on *ABCNews24*. He continued his close collaboration with the arts community and curated exhibitions in Sydney, including fulfilling the role of Chairperson of Diversity Arts Australia, on the Board of the Public Education Foundation, Academic Fellow at the Australia India Institute and a Research Fellow with the Centre for Policy Development. In 2018, Professor Arvanitakis was appointed as the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research and Graduate Studies).



### BRETT BENNETT

**Associate Professor Brett Bennett** deepened ICS's connections with South Africa by receiving a dual appointment as an Associate Professor of History at the University of Johannesburg, where he spearheaded Australian-African engagements relating to humanities, science and the environment. In 2017, he led two trips to the Kruger National Park, his sixth in total. He finished research on his Australian Research Council Discovery project on world heritage. He edited a special issue of a journal on globalisation in *Itinerario* (Cambridge University Press), including two articles and an interview with the renowned historian A.G. Hopkins, and attended a workshop on forestry at Beijing Forestry University to present a paper on how history can inform scientific debates about forests and rain to be published in 2018 in *Forest Ecosystems*. Associate Professor Bennett is developing research project with key stakeholders in South Africa to explore the ecological and social justice legacies of tree planting in apartheid and colonial South Africa. He is contributing to a special issue on the social impacts of invasive species *Journal of Environmental Management*, and submitting an edited book (U North Carolina Press) and a co-authored book on climate change (Reaktion Press).



### KYLIE BUDGE

In August 2017, **Dr Kylie Budge** joined Western Sydney University as Senior Research Fellow. She is a school-based member of ICS and is located with the School of Humanities and Communication Arts. Dr Budge researches the intersections between people and technology and society with an interest in how these connections manifest to produce new knowledge about communication and cultural practices. In late 2017, she began working on a project that explores the creative city phenomenon from the perspective of creative producers and production through makerspaces. This research explores an interdisciplinary space where opportunities exist for art, design, craft, manufacturing, technology, and urban and cultural planning and policy to inform each other and change practice. In addition, Dr Budge researches how cultural audiences and social media contribute to the development of creative places within cities. In 2017, in the context of museums and galleries, she continued working on research projects that investigate the way that visual culture is used through social media such as Instagram to construct meanings of self and place. Dr Budge co-edited a special issue on galleries, libraries, archives and museums (GLAM) for the *Australasian Journal of Popular Culture*.



## ROBYN BUSHELL

**Associate Professor Robyn Bushell**, is a school-based member at ICS, located in the School of Social Sciences and Psychology. In 2017 she continued heritage research and fieldwork in South East Asia, collaborating in different capacities with UNESCO, Vietnam World Heritage Office, Luang Prabang and Luang Prabang: Handle with Care. She was the facilitator of the workshop, Intangible Cultural Heritage and Tourism representing UNESCO World Heritage Centre in Laos, and contributed to the revision of the UNESCO Hoi An Declaration on the Conservation of Historic sites in Asia. Associate Professor Bushell gave many invited papers across the year, including at the Adaptive Reuse of Heritage for Tourism, Quang Nam Heritage Conservation Technical meeting; The University of Culture, Ho Chi Minh City; and the National University of Economics, Ha Noi. She published four academic publications.



## HART COHEN

**Professor Hart Cohen's** main output in 2017 was the publication of a sole-authored book with Routledge, in its Digital Humanities Series, titled, *The Strehlow Archive: Explorations in Old and New Media*. The book is a capstone publication after a long association with the Strehlow Research Centre and aligns with a number of Australian Research Council (ARC) Linkages and documentary film works which featured as part of this enduring partnership. The completion of a community collaboration film in Central Australia in 2017 titled *Ntaria Heroes* has featured in the current Excellence in Research for Australia round of Impact narratives developed by Western Sydney University for the ARC. Other research engagements include a continuing role as Chief Investigator on a SSHRC (Canada) project. Professor Cohen presented two conference papers in 2017: one at the Society of History of Authorship, Researcher and Publishing in Canada and the other at the Knowledge, Culture, Ecology Conference in Chile. He continued to lead the online publication, *Global Media Journal: Australian Edition* with two issues: Volume 11 #1 co-edited on the theme of Narrative resistance; the second on the theme of the Politics of Climate Change in Australia.

## ANN DADICH

In 2017, **Dr Ann Dadich**, published one textbook, one book chapter, seven refereed journal articles, three refereed conference papers and one research report. These outputs furthered scholarship on the translation of knowledge to practice, particularly in the context of health services. Consider for instance, her co-authored article on how and why emotions matter in interprofessional healthcare. As part of her contributions to the Australian and New Zealand Academy of Management, Dr Dadich co-chaired the Health Management and Organisation Conference Stream and co-convened the Health Management and Organisation Special Interest Group, encouraging engagement and scholarship between (and within) academe and industry. She continued to lead an externally funded study to understand brilliance in evidence-based palliative care using an innovative methodology. This study attracted considerable media interest in 2017, and was reported on six occasions. These scholarly pursuits contributed to her teaching role within the School of Business, where she coordinated and delivered the final-year unit, 'Creating Change and Innovation', as well as supervised doctoral scholars. During 2017, Dr Dadich collaborated with colleagues within and beyond the university to commence studies as part of the Sydney Partnership for Health Education, Research and Enterprise, which will be furthered in 2018.



## SHEREE GREGORY

## NICHOLE GEORGE



### KATE HUPPATZ

**Dr Kate Huppatz** continued to work on two key strands of research in 2017: gendered labour; and mothering research. Dr Huppatz carried out two pilot projects: 'Digital Technology Use for Antenatal Education' (with Possamai-Inesedy, Schmied and Liamputtong) and 'What Next? Beyond the Broderick Review into Gender Equity in the Military' (with Dagistanli). Dr Huppatz was part of a large interdisciplinary team which won a bid to write a White Paper on *Maternal and Child Health*, which contributes to the Western Sydney University's Health and Wellbeing Research Theme. Dr Huppatz also became joint Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Sociology*. She published four co-authored scholarly articles, co-authored an encyclopaedia entry and worked on her second sole-authored monograph, *Gender Work and Social Theory*.



### JORGE KNIJNIK

**Associate Professor Jorge Knijnik** focused his research work in three main areas during 2017: first he continued developing his ongoing project on multiculturalism and sports fans, which looked at the sports fans' cultural pedagogies and their contributions to their multicultural communities. He published two peer-reviewed papers on the topic, one in *Sport in Society* and the other in the *Journal of Intercultural Studies*. He continued his collaboration with Oxford University researchers on the project, 'Ritual, Community and Conflict'. His second focus was his research on multicultural pedagogies of sports, publishing two book chapters on inclusive sports programs and a peer-reviewed article on Aboriginal children participation in organised sports. Finally, he initiated a project on Chinese football fandom in Australia with a group of researchers from ICS and Western Sydney University's Australia-China Institute for Arts and Culture.



### ALANA LENTINI

**Associate Professor Alana Lentini** was the Hans Speier Visiting Professor of Sociology at the New School for Social Research (January-June 2017). She was elected President of the Australian Critical Race and Whiteness Studies Association for two years. She published three book chapters and two journal articles. She gave talks at The New School New York, York University Toronto, Haus der Kulturen der Welt Berlin, Sciences Po Paris, the Mellon Foundation's Difference Diversity and Inclusion Colloquium, and Macquarie University Centre for Ethics, Values and Agency. She was interviewed for the *ABC Radio National* program 'The Minefield' and contributed articles to *Inference Review*, *The Guardian* and *ABC Religion and Ethics*.



## KAREN MALONE

In 2017, **Professor Karen Malone** launched her project, 'Children in the Anthropocene' ([www.childrenintheanthropocene.com](http://www.childrenintheanthropocene.com)). This research project focuses on children's relations with animals, plants, weather, radiation, materials and objects, using post-humanist and new materialist concepts. Research has been conducted in South America, ex-Soviet countries and Australia. A co-edited book, *Reimagining Sustainability in Precarious Times* drawing on her philosophical focus of engaging with innovative theoretical frameworks in the Anthropocene was published in 2017 and received 7,064 downloads in its first eight months. Drawing on a decade of research on children in cities she completed her sole-authored book, *Children in the Anthropocene: Rethinking Sustainability and Child Friendliness in Cities* for production with an early 2018 publication date. Throughout the year she worked closely with Amy Cutter-Mackenzie as Editor-in-Chief of the new *International Research Handbook on Childhoodnature* and continued in her role as series editor of a Springer books series *Children: Global Posthumanist Perspectives and Materialist Theories* that will see 13 books commissioned and published from 2018–2021. She gave a keynote presentation at the Outdoors Victoria conference in Bendigo, a presentation at the Knowledge, Culture, Ecologies conference in Santiago, Chile, among many other presentations. Professor Malone also started a new role as associate editor of the *Journal of Environmental Education*.



## ABBY MELLICK LOPES

**Dr Abby Mellick Lopes** was an investigator on the Sydney Water partnership project 'Understanding the Drivers of Public Trust in Sydney Water' (lead by Gay Hawkins). She co-authored the report *Exploring the Practices of Mandarin-Speaking Water Drinkers* with Zoë Sofoulis, Yinghua Yu and Rachael Wakefield-Rann. She continued the Learning Partnership with Sydney Water, and won a citation for outstanding contribution to student learning for this work. Dr Mellick Lopes continued to advance work on 'Cooling the Commons' with Katherine Gibson, Louise Crabtree, Stephen Healy and Emma Power. She presented at the Ecocity World Summit in Melbourne, and with Louise Crabtree at Hacking the Anthropocene II: Weathering at University of Sydney. She established a Learning Partnership with Parramatta City Council around 'Cooling the Commons', culminating in a student exhibition at Parramatta Town Hall. With Dr Alison Gill, she commenced work on a pilot study 'Cultures of Repair' with funding from the Environment and Heritage Research Theme. She published an article in *Arena Journal*, and two book chapters: 'Making Time: Food Preservation and Ontological Design' in *Food Democracy* with Tessa Zettel and 'Creating Knowledge: Visual Communications Design Research in Transdisciplinary Projects' in *Transdisciplinary Research and Practice for Sustainability Outcomes* with Jennifer Williams and Dena Fam.



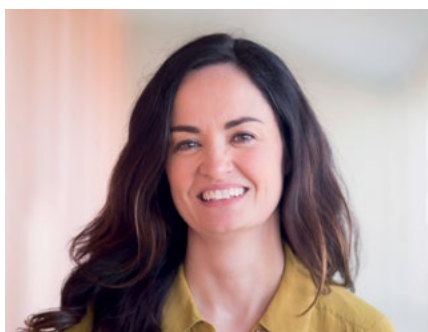
## TANYA NOTLEY

**Dr Tanya Notley** worked with *Crinkling News* and Michael Dezuanni (QUT) to design and implement the first representative survey of young Australians' news media practices. She published a report on key findings and presented this at a two-day event (MediaMe) that brought together young Australians, media organisations, social media platforms and educators to develop recommendations that can advance news media literacy amid concerns regarding the impact of 'fake news'. The survey and event were widely reported on across national, state and local media. Dr Notley continued work on the Australian Research Council Discovery project, 'Data Centres and the Governance of Labour and Territory' (with Ned Rossiter and Brett Neilson). This included doing fieldwork in Sydney, Singapore and Hong Kong and presenting research at events in each country. She also wrote a journal article and published a co-authored book chapter on the environmental footprint of data centers. Dr Notley also continued work on the invisibility emotion mapping project. The project team co-authored a journal article about the need for urban developers to consider the affective dimensions of the city and they received funding to re-purpose the project's online emotion mapping platform into a customisable mobile App.



## BONNIE PANG

**Dr Bonnie Pang** joined ICS as a school-based member in 2017. She established the Rethinking Health Experience and Active Lifestyles: Chinese Communities research program which is undertaking a range of projects/initiatives in this area. She secured external funding from individual donors and delivered invited research presentations to the Australian Institute of Sport, City of Sydney, Australia-China Institute for Arts and Culture, and the City Community Tennis. In 2017, she was the lead author of two book chapters in the Routledge and Springer Publishers on a new research imagination with Chinese young girls' physical activity, and Ethnographic research methods (both to be published in 2018). She is currently writing a co-authored book entitled, *Interpreting the Chinese Diaspora: Socialisation, Identity and Resilience According to Pierre Bourdieu*. She was awarded a Western Sydney University Women's Fellowship to examine Chinese international students' health and wellbeing in NSW. She also won the prestigious the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowship.



## ANNA CRISTINA PERTIERRA

For much of 2017, **Dr Anna Cristina Pertierra** was involved in the final stages of her book, *Media Anthropology for the Digital Age* (Polity), which was published in December. Her other research and publications for the year focused largely on the Philippines, particularly the role of media and celebrity culture in contemporary social, economic and political events. Her publications in *The Conversation* led to a chapter in the first academic collection on President Rodrigo Duterte (A Duterte Reader, Ateneo de Manila Press and Cornell University Press). She also completed book chapters on political consumerism in the Philippines (with Sarah Webb) and located technologies in Asia (with Tingting Liu). A journal article on Philippine entertainment television in *The Australian Journal of Anthropology* was released online ahead of its 2018 publication. Dr Pertierra was part of the organizing committee for the Knowledge, Culture, Ecology Conference held in Santiago, Chile in November. In her 'home' School of Humanities and Communication Arts, Dr Pertierra is the Director of International and continues her teaching activities.

## HAYLEY SAUL

**Dr Hayley Saul** divided her research efforts across four areas in 2017. She continued her culinary heritage research by commencing a monograph: *Enchanted Cuisines* provisionally endorsed for publication in the Routledge book series *Critical Studies in Heritage, Emotion and Affect*. She expanded her explorations of Asian heritage ethnographies by establishing a participatory project with the community of Chaturale in Nepal, to design and construct a Museum of Cuisine. Dr Saul continued her community heritage project with the village of Langtang in the Himalayas, constructing a 'heritage trail', scheduled for completion in 2018. She commenced a new project exploring the cultural landscapes of Genghis Khan in Mongolia, supported by the Western Sydney University Women's Fellowship. Across the year, Dr Saul published an edited volume entitled, *Affective Geographies of Transformation, Exploration and Adventure*; a duet of chapters for the Routledge *Handbook of Landscape Studies* entitled, 'The Temporality of Post-Disaster Landscapes and Anthropocene Landscapes'; an article entitled, 'Heritage and Communities of Compassion in the Aftermath of the Great Earthquake' in the *Journal of Community Archaeology and Heritage*; and an article entitled, 'Frontier Trails Around the Himalayas' in the *Journal of Heritage Tourism*. She continues to direct the Himalayan Exploration and Archaeological Research Team.

## CAMELIA WEBB-GANNON

**Dr Camellia Webb-Gannon** is a part-time Research Fellow at Western Sydney University and joined ICS in 2017 as a school-based member. Over 2017, she continued working on her Australian Research Council Linkage project, 'Music, Mobile Phones and Community Justice in Melanesia', carrying out fieldwork in New Caledonia. She convened two conferences: one as co-ordinator of the West Papua Project, a joint University of Sydney-Western Sydney University initiative, titled 'Beyond the Pacific: West Papua on the World Stage'; and the other, Western Sydney University's 2017 Oceania Network conference, as that network's co-facilitator. Dr Webb-Gannon continued to serve as the co-secretary of the Australian Association for Pacific Studies and on the executive committee of the Australasian Association for Digital Humanities. She published, or had accepted for publication, four journal articles. She commenced writing a book manuscript examining the politics of unity and conflict within West Papua's decolonisation movement.



## JESSICA WHYTE



# Research Projects

## RESEARCH PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN BY ICS RESEARCHERS IN 2017



Image credit: 'Suburban Home - Melbourne' by Philip Bouchard, Flickr Creative Commons License 2.0.

### A CENTRE FOR RESEARCH EXCELLENCE IN ADOLESCENT HEALTH: MAKING HEALTH SERVICES WORK FOR ADOLESCENTS IN A DIGITAL AGE

**Researchers:** Dr Philippa Collin (ICS), Associate Professor Amanda Third (ICS), Professor Katharine Steinbeck (University of Sydney), Professor Rachel Skinner (University of Sydney), Professor Lena Sancu (University of Melbourne), Professor Deborah Schofield (University of Sydney), Professor Fiona Brooks (University of Technology Sydney), Professor Angus Dawson (University of Sydney), Professor Rebecca Ivers (University of Sydney), Professor Lin Perry (University of Technology Sydney), Associate Professor Bette Liu (University of New South Wales), Associate Professor Melissa Kang (University of Technology Sydney), Dr Julie Mooney-Somers (University of Sydney), Professor Leon Straker (University of Sydney), Dr Sally Gibson (NSW Health), Professor Phillip Hazell (University of Sydney), Professor Louise Baur (University of Sydney), Professor Sandra Eades (Baker IDI), Professor Susan Sawyer (University of Melbourne)

**Funding:** National Health and Medical Research Council (via University of Sydney)

**Period:** 2017-2022

From 2018-2022, Institute for Culture and Society (ICS) scholars Dr Philippa Collin, Dr Teresa Swist and Associate Professor Amanda Third will participate in the newly

funded Centre of Research Excellence in Adolescent Health (CRE). The CRE is a new interdisciplinary partnership between 5 Australian universities and NSW Health to create an evidence base for investment in responsive health services and systems that work for young people and which will benefit the community long-term. ICS will contribute to Stream 1: Ethics and Engagement, co-led by Dr Philippa Collin and Professor Angus Dawson (University of Sydney). As issues relating to data, participation and ethics in health research, policy and service delivery become more complex interdisciplinary approaches led by socio-cultural perspectives on health and equality are urgently needed. In collaboration with the Western Sydney University InterGener8 Living Lab, this research will bring together diverse young people, families, health consumers, researchers, policy makers and other community members to investigate the conditions, ethics and modalities of youth-engaged health research. Our aim is to directly inform priorities and practices in health research and address the challenges of embedding young people's experiences in health research, policy and service design in the digital society.

### AGEING, HOME AND HOUSING SECURITY AMONG SINGLE, ASSET-POOR OLDER WOMEN

**Researcher:** Dr Emma Power (ICS)

**Funding:** Australian Research Council, Discovery Early Career Researcher Award

**Period:** 2015-2019

This project aims to investigate the stability of single older women's senses of home, security and belonging as they negotiate asset and income insecurity. It examines: how national and housing provider scale housing policy and governance frameworks shape the ways that older women experience and make decisions about the home; and how the home is affected by housing mobility. Using a housing pathways approach, the project aims to develop knowledge of how housing markets and supply affect, and are shaped by, homemaking cultures and practices. The project aims to address a research gap about the ways in which asset-poor older Australians maintain stable housing pathways and senses of home, security and belonging as they age.



Image credit to ICS researcher  
Juan Francisco Salazar.



## ANTARCTIC CITIES AND THE GLOBAL COMMONS: RETHINKING THE GATEWAYS

**Researchers:** Associate Professor Juan Francisco Salazar (ICS/HCA), Professor Paul James (ICS), Associate Professor Elizabeth Leane (University of Tasmania), Dr Liam Magee (ICS), Mr Tim Short (Hobart City Council), Dr Daniela Liggett (University of Canterbury), Mr Elías Barticevic (Chilean Antarctic Institute), Professor Dr Claudia Estrada Goic (University of Magallanes)

**Funding:** Australian Research Council, Linkage Project

**Partners:** Hobart City Council; Department of State Growth; University of Canterbury, Christchurch; Christchurch City Council; Chilean Antarctic Institute; University of Magallanes.

**Period:** 2016–2019

This project aims to investigate how the Antarctic ‘gateway cities’ of Hobart, Australia; Christchurch, New Zealand; and Punta Arenas, Chile might reimagine and intensify their relations to the continent and each other. As pressures on Antarctica increase, these ‘gateway cities’ will become critical to its future. This research is expected to create a robust custodial network of partner organisations that helps these cities care for Antarctica.

## ‘ANTI-RACISM APPS’: MODELS, APPROACHES AND USES OF MOBILE MEDIA FOR EDUCATION AGAINST RACISM

**Researchers:** Associate Professor Alana Lentin (ICS/HCA), Dr Justine Humphry (University of Sydney)

**Period:** June 2015–May 2016 (continuing)

This project will examine the way in which mobile media platforms and apps are entangled in specific understandings and approaches to racism. A number of ‘anti-racism apps’ in Australia, the US, France, the UK and Canada are the focus of the research. Using cultural research methodologies such as platform and interface analysis and interviews with developers and users we will critically analyse and assess the user models, approaches to racism and use of mobile media for education and governance to inform future developments in anti-racism interventions and services.

## ASSEMBLING AND GOVERNING HABITS

**Researchers:** Professor Tony Bennett (ICS), Professor Gay Hawkins (ICS) Professor Greg Noble (ICS), Professor Nikolas Rose (Kings College London)

**Funding:** Australian Research Council, Discovery Project

**Period:** 2017–2019

This project aims to examine how modern Western disciplines conceived of habits, and how these conceptions informed the techniques of mundane governance which managed habits. As cities face increasing pressures, the challenges of governing everyday habits prompt urgent questions about how habits are understood and managed. This project will study the governance of ‘city habits’ from the late 19th century to the present. The project will apply and deepen its description of habit through case studies focused on contemporary Sydney. Its findings are expected to benefit city planners and policy makers by informing the organisation and regulation of habits.



'Better than Widescreen?' by Glenn Brown,  
Flickr Creative Commons License, 2.0.



Image credit to ICS researcher Ned Rossiter.

## AUSTRALIAN CULTURAL FIELDS: NATIONAL AND TRANSNATIONAL DYNAMICS

**Researchers:** Professor Tony Bennett (ICS), Professor David Rowe (ICS), Professor Greg Noble (ICS), Professor Tim Rowse (ICS), Professor Deborah Stevenson (ICS), Associate Professor Emma Waterton (ICS), Professor Fred Myers (New York University), Professor Modesto Gayo (Universidad Diego Portales, Chile), Professor Graeme Turner (University of Queensland), David Carter (University of Queensland)

**Funding:** Australian Research Council, Discovery Project

**Period:** 2014–2017

Australian Cultural Fields examines the forces changing the production and consumption of contemporary Australian culture. It will assess the influence of transnationalism, the transformations caused by digital media, migration and multiculturalism, and the shifting presence of Indigenous culture, on the relations between culture and nation. It will be the first study to examine the relations between transnational forces, new information technologies, and migrant and Indigenous cultures in the contemporary Australian context. Internationally, it will be the first large-scale study to interrogate the relations between the fields of cultural production and consumption.

## BETWEEN LOGISTICS AND MIGRATION: DUISBURG AND THE NEW SILK ROAD

**Researchers:** Professor Brett Neilson (ICS), Professor Ned Rossiter (ICS), Tsvetelina Hristova (ICS), Professor Manuela Bojadzijev (Leuphana University Luneburg), Dr Armin Beverungen (Leuphana University Luneburg), Moritz Altenried (Leuphana University Luneburg), Mira Wallis (Leuphana University Luneburg)

**Funding:** Western Sydney University, as part of an external scheme by Universities Australia and German Academic Exchange Service

**Period:** 2017–2018

China is building a new Silk Road. One of its arteries is the Yuxinou freight railway which runs between Chongqing and the German city of Duisburg. Opened in 2011, this railway has driven growth in Duisburg's logistical sector. But Duisburg is not only a logistical city. It is also a magnet for migration with foreign-born inhabitants averaging approximately twice the rate for Germany as a whole. This project investigates relations between transport logistics and the logistics of migration in Duisburg. Its methods combine digital research with ethnographic fieldwork (interviews, observation, visual documentation) at workplaces surrounding Duisport (the city's logistical hub) and in the adjacent migrant neighbourhood of Marxloh. The aim is to analyse how logistics

produces and connects heterogeneous urban spaces and populations. This allows critical interrogation of traditional approaches to migration (push-pull factors, labour reserve, etc.). It also permits assessment of how logistics industries affect populations beyond their workforces. The project thus explores how digital generation of data and software orientations in industry alter the material and symbolic coordinates of the city, generating a 'long tail' of informal labour and mediating social reproduction as well as practices of daily life.





Image credit to ICS researcher Ned Rossiter.

## CULTIVATING DIGITAL CAPACITIES

**Researchers:** Associate Professor Amanda Third (ICS), Professor Paul James (ICS), Dr Philippa Collin (ICS), Dr Liam Magee (ICS), Dr Tanya Notley (ICS/HCA), Dr Justine Humphry (University of Sydney), Dr Louise Crabtree (ICS), Samantha Yorke (Google)

**Funding:** Google Australia

**Period:** 2015–2017

This project aims to measure digital capacity across four domains: economic, ecological, political, and cultural. It will identify enabling practices that help people connect using digital means, as well as barriers to participation in the digital world. The development of the Index will draw upon qualitative case studies of Australian families from diverse backgrounds, along with a quantitative survey of 2,000 participants.

## DATA CENTRES AND THE GOVERNANCE OF LABOUR AND TERRITORY

**Researchers:** Professor Brett Neilson (ICS), Professor Ned Rossiter (ICS/HCA), Dr Tanya Notley (ICS/HCA), Professor Laikwan Pang (Chinese University of Hong Kong), Professor Stefano Harney (Singapore Management University), Associate Professor Sandro Mezzadra (University of Bologna and ICS Adjunct Fellow), Professor Anna Reading (King's College London and ICS Adjunct Professor), Junior Professor Florian Sprenger (Goethe University Frankfurt)

**Funding:** Australian Research Council, Discovery Project

**Period:** 2016–2018

Focusing on data centres in Singapore, Hong Kong and Sydney, this project aims to advance understandings of how these facilities are transforming ways of living and working in the Asia Pacific. Without data centres the world stops; these infrastructures are the core components of a rapidly expanding but rarely discussed digital storage and management industry that has become critical to global economy and society. The intended outcome of the project is a broadening of debates and research practices relevant to policymaking on the digital economy. The expected benefit is increased public knowledge about the social and cultural effects of data-driven economic change and, in particular, the growing importance of private data infrastructures.

## DELIVERING URBAN WELLBEING THROUGH TRANSFORMATIVE COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE

**Researchers:** Dr Stephen Healy (ICS), Dr Kelly Dombroski (University of Canterbury), Dr Gradon Dirprose (Massey University), Associate Professor David Conradson (University of Canterbury)

**Funding:** National Science Challenge 11: Building Better Homes, Towns and Cities NZ

**Period:** 2017–2018

This project used qualitative methods to investigate the social, economic and material impacts of a community enterprise in Christchurch, focusing attention on Cultivate, a community enterprise that uses the common spaces of two urban farms transform green waste from restaurants into rich soil and high quality fresh produce. The produce is then sold back to local restaurants, supported by the labour of at-risk youth interns. A main goal of the project was to be able to represent the impact that this organisation had on the wellbeing of young people, project staff, volunteers, and the broader community of Christchurch including other area enterprises and the municipal government. In-depth interviews with project participants were an entry point into a focused group process to explore both the inputs into Cultivate that serve as its conditions of possibility as well as a way of getting at the multidimensional returns on investment. The project provided

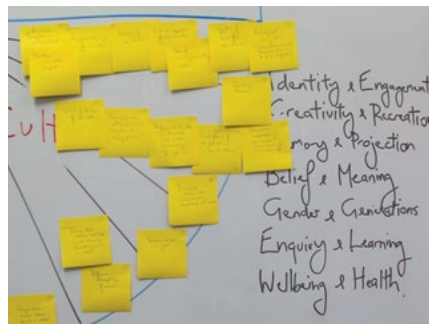


Image credit to ICS Director Paul James.



an opportunity to further elaborate a previously developed assessment tool: Community Economy Return on Investment (CEROI). Project outputs will include a visual representation of CEROI assessment along with a video for popular audiences that will talk about the role of social enterprise in post-quake reconstruction.

### DISABILITY PENSION REFORM AND REGIONAL AUSTRALIA: THE INDIGENOUS EXPERIENCE

**Researcher:** Dr Karen Soldatic (ICS)

**Funding:** Australian Research Council, Discovery Early Career Researcher Award

**Period:** 2016–2018

Across the OECD, disability income support policy has become central to national economic policy. Australia has led and followed such trends with disability income support becoming a key platform of national socio-economic reform. This has occurred as regional centres have experienced rapid economic and social change. Drawing upon Indigenous and place-based methods, this study will examine how four regional centres navigate the socioeconomic challenges they face with an increasing Indigenous disability population in a context of national reform. The study focuses on Indigenous Australians with disabilities. The findings will significantly inform regional and national disability policy in the coming years for Indigenous Australians.

### GOVERNING DIGITAL CITIES

**Researcher:** Professor Donald McNeill (ICS)

**Funding:** Australian Research Council, Future Fellowship Grant

**Period:** 2012–2017

This project has three strands. First, it will examine the nature of the digital economy in several cities worldwide, with a focus on attempts to emulate the success of Silicon Valley. Case studies will include London's Silicon Roundabout, Barcelona's 22@, Hong Kong's Cyberport, and New York's digital road-map. Second, it will chart the growing interest of firms such as IBM, Microsoft, Intel, and Cisco in urban governance and service provision, and how they envision and construct urban futures. Third, it will provide a major empirical examination of Australia's digital economy, conducting fieldwork in Sydney, Melbourne, Perth, Brisbane and Adelaide, exploring technology parks, venture capital, start-up ecologies and incubators, and the readiness of government to engage with high technology sectors.



Image credit to Tim Neale.



Image credit to ICS researcher Ned Rossiter.



'Nankeen Kestrel, Portrait in Soft Light', by David Jenkins, Flickr Creative Commons License, 2.0.

## HAZARDS, CULTURE AND INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

**Researchers:** Dr Jessica K. Weir (ICS), Dr Timothy Neale (Deakin University), Dr Will Smith (Deakin University), Dr Brian Cook (University of Melbourne), Mr Oliver Costello (Firesticks Initiative), Associate Professor Tara McGee (University of Alberta), Adjunct Professor Jeremy Russell-Smith (Charles Darwin University)

**Funding:** Bushfire and Natural Hazards Cooperative Research Centre, Commonwealth Department of Industry, Innovation and Science

**Period:** 2017-2020

Within the context of reducing natural hazard risk and increasing resilience in southern Australia, Cultural Hazards focuses explicitly on the risk and resilience priorities of Aboriginal communities in southern Australia, the emergency management sector's priorities for engagement with these communities, and how these interests interact. The aim of this project is to identify where improvements might be made to reduce natural hazard risk and increase social and ecological resilience. The first year of the Hazards, Culture and Indigenous Communities project has focused around initial fieldwork, the development of research priorities, completing publications, and maintaining strong end user engagement.

## LOGISTICS AS GLOBAL GOVERNANCE: LABOUR, SOFTWARE AND INFRASTRUCTURE ALONG THE NEW SILK ROAD

**Researchers:** Professor Brett Neilson (ICS), Professor Ned Rossiter (ICS) Professor Ursula Huws (University of Hertfordshire), Professor William Walters (Carleton University), Professor Ranabir Samaddar (Mahanirban Calcutta Research Group), Associate Professor Sandro Mezzadra (University of Bologna), Dr Eleni Kambouri (Panteion University), Dr Hernan Cuevas (Diego Portales University)

**Funding:** Australian Research Council, Discovery Project

**Period:** 2013-2017

China is building a New Silk Road. It is set to revolutionise relations of trade and production, linking Asia to Europe and Latin America. This project investigates the cultural and social transformations introduced by this emerging economic network. Focusing on three key infrastructural hubs (the ports of Piraeus, Valparaíso and Kolkata), the project will advance understandings of how logistical processes manage labour forces and contribute to global governance. Digital methods will be used to: 1) build innovative platforms for broadening debates and research practices concerning software, labour and globalisation, and 2) provide a 'serious game' to illustrate changing scenarios of work and culture along the New Silk Road.

## MAKING ANIMALS PUBLIC: THE CHANGING ROLE OF THE AUSTRALIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION IN BUILDING PUBLIC VALUE AND INTEREST IN WILDLIFE DOCUMENTARY

**Researchers:** Professor Gay Hawkins (ICS), Mary Jane Stannus (Head of Content Services, ABC)

**Funding:** Australian Research Council, Linkage Project

**Partner:** Australian Broadcasting Corporation

**Period:** 2014-2017

The aim of this project is to critically evaluate the ABC's changing role in building public value and engagement with animals through the genre of wildlife documentary. For many years wildlife documentary has been seen as quintessential public service content. There is no question that the ABC's Natural History Unit, set up in 1973, played a key role in making animals educational, entertaining and often national. Through an innovative collaboration between media scholars and the ABC this study investigates exactly how the ABC has built public awareness of animals' environmental and cultural significance and the national benefit of this; how this has been affected by changed production models; and how the ABC should manage the intellectual property (IP) of its extensive wildlife archive for the public good in a converged environment.



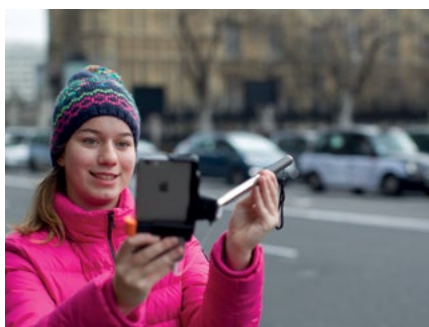


Image credit to ICS graduate Andrea Del Bono.

## MAPPING THE EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES OF REFUGEE STUDENTS (MEERS)

**Researchers:** Associate Professor Megan Watkins (ICS), Professor Greg Noble (ICS), Dr Alex Wong (ICS)

**Funding:** New South Wales Teachers' Federation

**Period:** 2017–2018

Various community, government and non-government organisations have provided considerable assistance to schools with enrolments of refugee students. Recent studies, however, suggest that not only far more is needed, but that further research is required to gauge refugee students' experiences of schooling and whether current practice is addressing their needs and those of teachers. This is the aim of the proposed project. Through a detailed qualitative enquiry, it will provide a comprehensive snapshot of the experiences of refugee students in NSW schools together with accumulating accounts of good practice in the area in terms of curriculum, pedagogy and wider school programs. This research will be used to inform professional learning materials for NSW teachers building their capacity to support refugee students and their families.

## NEWS AND AUSTRALIAN CHILDREN

**Researchers:** Dr Tanya Notley (ICS), Dr Flora Hua Zhong (ICS), Associate Professor Michael Dezuanni (Queensland University of Technology)

**Funding:** Crinkling News

**Period:** 2017

This project was motivated by public concern regarding the circulation and potential impact of fake news. The project responded to these concerns by designing and implementing the first nationally representative survey to examine young Australians news practices and experiences. The survey analysis finds that young Australians aged 8-16 years consume a lot of news both directly and through their social relations (family, friends and teachers). While social media sites are often used for news consumption, young people are not confident about spotting fake news online and many rarely or never check the source of online news stories. Despite this, only one in five young Australians reported receiving any lessons to support their ability to critique news in the 12 months prior to the survey. The findings raise important questions about the need for news media literacy education – both in schools and in the home. The project report was launched at a major event, MediaMe, at The Museum of Contemporary Art. This event brought together young Australians, news media organisations, social media platform companies and educators to develop recommendations to advance young people's news media literacy.

## RECALIBRATING CULTURE: PRODUCTION, CONSUMPTION, POLICY

**Researchers:** Professor Deborah Stevenson (ICS), Professor David Rowe (ICS)

**Funding:** Australian Research Council, Linkage Project

**Period:** 2013–2016 (continuing)

**Partners/collaborators:** Auburn City Council, Fairfield City Council, Liverpool City Council, Parramatta City Council, Penrith City Council

The Council of the City of Sydney and Information and Cultural Exchange This project documents and analyses changing modes of cultural production and consumption in Australia through a case study of the cultural economy of its most dynamic urban area, Greater Western Sydney. It advances theoretical-conceptual understanding and empirical knowledge of networks of contemporary cultural employment and activity, exposing and exploring interactions among key agents within diverse, growing cultural practitioner communities. In adding value to 'broad-brush' national cultural statistics, Recalibrating Culture will develop and validate a new cultural policy approach to Australian cultural development that, for the first time, effectively aligns with rapidly changing conditions and practices of the 'new' cultural economy.



Image credit to ICS researcher Ned Rossiter.



Image credit to Ann Hill.

## RECONFIGURING THE ENTERPRISE: SHIFTING MANUFACTURING CULTURE IN AUSTRALIA

**Researchers:** Professor Katherine Gibson (ICS), Dr Stephen Healy (ICS), Associate Professor Jenny Cameron (University of Newcastle)

**Funding:** Australian Research Council, Discovery Project

**Period:** 2016–2018

This project aims to explore the future for manufacturing in Australia in the context of sustainability. Concerned with the wider societal and planetary impacts of conducting business-as-usual, some innovative Australian manufacturers are reorienting their business towards social and environmental sustainability. The complexities involved in pursuing genuine sustainability call for shifts in the culture of manufacturing. This project plans to use qualitative research to explore the inner workings of 12 firms that are integrating different forms of sustainability into their core operations. It plans to develop business metrics and critical incident cases to unravel the negotiations involved in addressing social and environmental sustainability. In so doing, it expects to contribute to debates about the nature of enterprise in the 21st century.

## RE-DRAWING THE ECONOMY: CREATING PLACE-BASED IMAGES THAT CAN TRAVEL PHASE 2

**Researchers:** Professor Katherine Gibson (ICS), Dr Stephen Healy (ICS), Associate Professor Jenny Cameron (University of Newcastle), Associate Professor Wendy Harcourt (Erasmus University)

**Funding:** Antipode Foundation Scholar-Activist Project Award

**Period:** 2016–2018

This project received funding to conduct workshops in Finland, South Korea and Colombia with communities who are building ethical economies. The workshops were designed to allow communities to take measure of their own economic lives and to make common cause with others by sharing what they've learned. The project was informed by relationships between the authors of *Take Back the Economy: An Ethical Guide for Transforming our Communities* (TBTE) (J.K. Gibson-Graham, Jenny Cameron and Stephen Healy), artists interested in visual re-presentations of economic relations, and the book's Finnish, Korean and Spanish translators. In the second stage representatives from each community joined, translators, artists from stage one with other

artists and community in Barking, London home of Company Drinks — a community and art based social enterprise, and CASCO art Institute from the Netherlands. The workshop developed materials for a digital exhibition and website as well as teaching tools that can be used in a range of settings to help promote a postcapitalist logic of economy, where mutual aid, care, cooperation and common concern are practiced.



Image credit to Tim Neale.

### SCIENTIFIC DIVERSITY, SCIENTIFIC UNCERTAINTY AND RISK MITIGATION POLICY AND PLANNING

**Researchers:** Dr Jessica Weir (ICS), Dr Liz Clarke (ICS), Dr Timothy Neale (Deakin University), Associate Professor Michael Eburn (Australian National University), Professor Stephen Dovers (Australian National University), Dr Josh Wodak (University of New South Wales), Professor John Handmer (RMIT University), Dr Christine Hansen (Australian National University), Associate Professor Tara McGee (University of Alberta, Canada)  
**Funding:** Bushfire and Natural Hazards Cooperative Research Centre

**Partner:** Fenner School of Environment and Society, The Australian National University

**Period:** 2014–2017

This project is focussing on how a better understanding of the role of science in decision-making will help industry articulate and defend decisions to the community, media, inquiries and elsewhere, and, better frame information and advice on how scientists and professionals communicate.

The project has four components: exploring how people have different understandings of the science of flood and bushfire risk; a focus on flood and bushfire mitigation activities in urban, peri-urban and rural locales in southeast Australia; considering bushfire and flood risk across the spectrum of Prevent, Prepare, Respond and Recover, with an emphasis on mitigation activities; and informing bushfire and flood mitigation practice, policy and planning, and engaging with the experiences of practitioners.



'Arrival Waiting 3', by Vincent Albanese, Flickr Creative Commons License 2.0.

### STAGGERED PATHWAYS: TEMPORALITY, MOBILITY AND ASIAN TEMPORARY MIGRANTS IN AUSTRALIA

**Researcher:** Dr Shanthi Robertson (ICS)

**Funding:** Australian Research Council, Discovery Early Career Researcher Award

**Period:** 2015–2018

Migrant mobilities between Australia and Asia are becoming more temporary and less linear. This project investigates the lived experience and the governance of 'temporally fluid' migration flows from Asia to Australia; explores migrants' senses of belonging over time at local, national and transnational scales; and develops methods and theories to analyse and visualise complex migrant journeys across borders, regions, visa statuses and labour markets. The use of time and temporality as framing concepts of the research will advance knowledge on how migration policy and migrants' decisions and experiences influence each other, and how belonging and transnationalism are being transformed by new types of mobility in the Asia-Pacific region.





Image credit to Ann Hill.



Image credit to ICS researcher Denis Byrne.

## STRENGTHENING ECONOMIC RESILIENCE IN MONSOON ASIA

**Researchers:** Professor Katherine Gibson (ICS), Dr Lisa Law (James Cook University), Associate Professor Darlene Occeña Gutierrez (University of the Philippines Diliman), Professor Nay Win Oo (Ministry of Education, Myanmar), Dr Ann Hill (ICS, Research Project Manager)

**Funding:** Australian Research Council, Discovery Project

**Period:** 2015–2018

Sharing, reciprocity and resource pooling are at the frontline of recovery and relief when economic crisis or disaster hits Monsoon Asia. This research aims to shed light on cases where these economic practices have been innovatively harnessed to diversify livelihoods and build economic resilience. Working with contemporary Asian scholars, practitioners in the disaster field and a data set gleaned from multiple sources, including mid-20th century tropical geography texts, the project aims to bring to the fore a regional landscape of diverse economic practices across Monsoon Asia. A cross-regional online knowledge community is expected to be formed to explore how this asset base might be mobilised towards more effective local development and disaster response.

## STUDY OF WOMEN WITH DISABILITY IN WAR AFFECTED COMMUNITIES IN SRI LANKA

**Researcher:** Dr Karen Soldatic (ICS)

**Funding:** Law and Society Trust, Sri Lanka (consultancy)

**Period:** 2016–2017

The Law and Society Trust, together with researchers from the Institute for Culture and Society at Western Sydney University, have collaborated in an unprecedented report documenting the stories of hardship and resilience of Sri Lankan women with disabilities living in war affected areas. The Final Report was launched by the Sri Lankan Human Rights Commission in July 2018.

## THE CHINA-AUSTRALIA HERITAGE CORRIDOR

**Researchers:** Dr Denis Byrne (ICS), Professor Ien Ang (ICS), Dr Michael Williams (ICS), Dr Alexandra Wong (ICS)

**Funding:** Australian Research Council, Discovery Project

**Period:** 2017–2019

This project aims to show how buildings and places created by Chinese migrants in Australia and home places in China testify, beyond the narrative of arrival and settlement, to Australian connections with China and the Chinese diaspora. Using the 'heritage corridor' concept, it aims to develop a transnational approach to migration heritage and will provide tools and concepts for broadly documenting, analysing and interpreting Australia's migration heritage. The project aims to help a more cosmopolitan 21st century Australia capitalise on its legacy of regional linkages through Chinese migration.



'Bottled Water', by Daniel Orth, Flickr, Creative Commons License, 2.0.



Image credit to Ann Hill.

## THE SKIN OF COMMERCE: THE ROLE OF PLASTIC PACKAGING IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF FOOD SECURITY, WASTE AND CONSUMER ACTIVISM IN AUSTRALIA

**Researchers:** Professor Gay Hawkins (ICS), Dr Andrea Westermann (University of Zurich), Dr Catherine Phillips (The University of Melbourne)

**Funding:** Australian Research Council, Discovery Project

**Period:** 2013–2017

This project investigates the history and impacts of plastic on food production, markets and waste streams and evaluates innovative industry strategies to reduce the over reliance on plastic. If we live in an overpackaged world how might this mundane material and serious waste burden be challenged while still ensuring food supply? Three key issues will be investigated: the interactions between the plastics and food industries in Australia; consumer activism about plastic waste; and new market practices that reduce plastic packaging.

## UNDERSTANDING THE EFFECTS OF TRANSNATIONAL MOBILITY ON YOUTH TRANSITIONS

**Researchers:** Dr Shanthi Robertson (ICS), Professor Anita Harris (Deakin University) and Associate Professor Loretta Baldassar (University of Western Australia)

**Funding:** Australian Research Council, Discovery Project (via Deakin University)

**Period:** 2017–2019

This project aims to examine transnational mobility amongst young people and to understand its effects on their economic opportunities, social and familial ties, capacity for citizenship and transitions to adulthood. Young people increasingly migrate abroad for work and education, and Australia is a significant hub for sending and receiving. Migration and education policies encourage this mobility, which is expected to provide youth with enhanced competitive skills. Outcomes of this project include a significant dataset and online research database on how youth from various cultural backgrounds manage mobility and develop economic, social and civic benefits for themselves and the broader community.

## URBAN FOOD ECONOMIES – RETHINKING VALUE FOR 'MORE-THAN-CAPITALIST' FUTURES

**Researchers:** Professor Katherine Gibson (ICS), Associate Professor Karin Bradley (KTH Royal Institute of Technology)

**Funding:** Seed funding for the Environmental Humanities, A Mistra-Formas Environmental Humanities Collaboratory

**Period:** 2017–2018

At present there is no model of urban development that recognizes the value (both non-monetised and monetarised) circulating in and around urban food production sites that have been created by community action. Citizens thus have few means to push back against mainstream 'growth as good' visions of urban futures. The aim of this project was to organize a workshop in June 2017, bringing together a trans-disciplinary group of community and scholar activists to:

- rethink values associated with community based food production,
- devise alternative indicators of value,
- model diverse value flows in 'more than capitalist' urban food economies, and
- develop a larger collaborative research grant proposal to a major funding body.

Work is continuing to develop the Community Economies Return on Investment Tool as a way of capturing the value (broadly defined) created in a variety of urban food production sites. A research submission to the UK ESRC is under development.



Image credit to ICS PhD researcher Helen Barcham.



## VOLUMETRIC URBANISM

**Researchers:** Professor Donald McNeill (ICS), Professor Simon Marin

**Funding:** Australian Research Council, Discovery Project

**Period:** 2017–2021

This project aims to explain how global built environment and development firms ‘push the envelope’ of urban space. In cities worldwide, governments are faced with the problem and possibilities of ‘volume’: stacking and moving people within booming central business districts, especially around mass public transport nodes. This project will examine the prototypes, calculative devices and mediating technologies that are used to redefine cities and maximise development values. It will analyse the justifications for high volume urban development projects, and assess how transnational business and design models shape city redevelopment. This project expects to provide insights into interpreting complex urban megaprojects in Australia and internationally.

## YOUNG AND RESILIENT LIVING LABS FOUNDATION PROJECT

**Researchers:** Associate Professor Amanda Third (ICS), Dr Teresa Swist (ICS), Dr Philippa Collin (ICS), Dr Girish Lala (ICS), Dr Emma Keltie (ICS)

**Funding:** Google, Western Sydney University Partnership Grant

**Period:** 2016–2017

This project will trial and test a community research and engagement process via the delivery of one Young and Resilient Living Lab Foundation Project in Greater Western Sydney between 1 July 2016 and 30 June 2017. The research team will work with stakeholders from across community, government, corporate and research entities to identify a key challenge facing the Greater Western Sydney community in relation to using technology to support young people's mental health and wellbeing. The project will investigate the relationship between risk and resilience online and offline, develop an accompanying evidence base and appropriate knowledge translation resources, and prototype an intervention.



## CONSULTANCIES

ASSA Workshop Program Grant: How Do We Write the History of Australian Indigenous Self-Determination – Emeritus Professor Tim Rowse (ICS), Dr Laura Rademaker (ANU)

CAPS Bus Shelter Design Review – Dr Sarah Barns (ICS)

Cultural Base: Social Platform on Cultural Heritage and European Identities – Professor Tony Bennett (ICS)

Gen NBN – Dr Liam Magee (ICS), Professor Brett Neilson (ICS), Professor Paul James (ICS), Associate Professor Amanda Third (ICS), Dr Glenn Stone (SCEM)

Kolorob Evaluation Project for Save the Children Bangladesh – Dr Liam Magee (ICS), Dr Teresa Swist (ICS)

LMRC-Circles of Social Life in Liverpool – Professor Paul James (ICS), Dr Karen Soldatic (ICS), Dr Liam Magee (ICS)

Milk Crate Theatre project – Professor James Arvanitakis (ICS)

Policy Transfer, Land Berlin – Professor Paul James (ICS)

Project Rokit Online: Program Evaluation – Associate Professor Amanda Third (ICS)

Understanding the Drivers of Public Trust in Sydney Water (Stage 1) – Professor Gay Hawkins (ICS), Dr Abby Mellick Lopes (ICS), Dr Ben Dibley (ICS), Dr Zoe Sofoulis (ICS)

## OTHER RESEARCH FUNDING

Brilliance in Evidence-Based Palliative Care – Dr Ann Dadich (ICS)

City of Sydney Venues and Infrastructure Study – Professor Ien Ang (ICS), Dr Liam Magee (ICS), Professor David Rowe (ICS)

Code for Online Decisions and Ethics (Phase 2) – Dr Philippa Collin (ICS), Amanda Third (ICS), Dr Teresa Swist (ICS)

Community Land Trust Research Project Phase 2 – Dr Louise Crabtree (ICS), Professor Carolyn Sappideen (School of Law), Professor Peter Phibbs (University of Sydney) with partners: St Kilda Community Housing, City of Port Phillip, Inner Melbourne Action Plan, SEMZ Property Group, Marrickville Council, Committee for Lorne, Mount Alexander, Community Land Ltd, Western Sydney University, Servants Community Housing, Hobart Ecovillage, Tasman Ecovillage and a private philanthropist.

Connected City Data Hub for UrbanGrowth – Dr Sarah Barns (ICS)

Cool Living Heritage in Qatar: Sustainable Alternatives to Air-conditioned Urban Development [via Texas A&M Uni - Qatar] – Professor Donald McNeill (ICS), Dr Trinidad Rico (Texas A&M University), Professor Tim Winter (Deakin University), Associate Professor Jiat-Hwee Chang (National University of Singapore), Dr Russell Hitchings (University College London)

eSmart Libraries Evaluation – Associate Professor Amanda Third (ICS)

Future-Proofing Western Sydney – Professor James Arvanitakis (ICS), Dr Philippa Collin (ICS)

Higher Education Participation and Partnerships Project (HEPPP) – 'Individual-based measure of socio-economic disadvantage' [via SCEM] – Dr Russell Thomson (SCEM), Associate Professor Christine Johnston (School of Education), Kerry Staples (School of Education), Dr Jioji Ravulo (SSAP), Dr Roger Dawkins (SHCA), Dr Karen Soldatic (ICS), Jim Micsko (Western Sydney University Widening Participation), Associate Professor Lorraine

Smith (University of Sydney), Professor Valerie Harwood (University of Sydney), Mary Teague (University of Sydney Widening Participation)

In Orbit: When Museum Collections Go Online – Riksbankens Jubileumsfond (via Linköpings Universitet) – Professor Fiona Cameron (ICS), Associate Professor Bodil Axelsson (Linköpings Universitet), Dr Katherine Hauptman (Historika Museet), Associate Professor Sheenagh Pietrobruno (St Paul University)

Investigation, Confirmation and Documentation of Elements of Parramatta's History ("Waves of People") – Dr Sarah Barns (ICS), Professor Ien Ang (ICS)

Lifetimes: A Natural History of the Present – Research Council of Norway (via University of Oslo) – Dr Fiona Cameron (ICS), Professor Helge Jordheim (University of Oslo) Professor Britta Brenna (University of Oslo), Associate Professor Anne Helene Kveim Lie (University of Oslo), Professor Espen Ytreberg (University of Oslo), Dr Michelle Bastian (Edinburgh College of Art), Professor Geoffrey Bowker (University of California-Irvine), Emeritus Professor Lucian Hölscher (Ruhr-University Bochum), Professor Lynn Hunt (University of California-Los Angeles), Assistant Professor Rana Issa (American University of Beirut), Professor Patrick Thaddeus Jackson (American University, Washington DC), Professor Margrit Pernau (Max Planck Institute for Human Development), Professor Clifford Siskin (New York University)

NSW Innovations Precincts Literature Review – Professor Donald McNeill (ICS)

Penrith City Council – Gap Filler – Dr Teresa Swist (ICS), Dr Sheree Gregory (ICS), Professor Paul James (ICS)

Platform Urbanism: The Role of City Labs, Data Infomediaries and Open Government Experiments in Urban Governance: Urban Studies Foundation – Dr Sarah Barns (ICS)

Research and Co-design of a Peer Mentoring Scheme for Refugee Youth (MYAN) – Dr Philippa Collin (ICS), Dr Teresa Swist (ICS)

Reviewing Cultural Diversity – Professor James Arvanitakis (ICS)

The Seed Box – A Mistra-Formas Environmental Humanities Collaboratory (EHC) [via Linköping University] – Dr Jennifer Mae Hamilton (ICS), Dr Denis Byrne (ICS)

Smart Cities SME Adviser (Esem Projects) – Dr Sarah Barns (ICS)

Smart Cities Subject Matter Expertise (SME) Adviser – Dr Sarah Barns (ICS)

Smart, Skilled, Hired and Diverse: Co-Designing Youth Unemployment Programs to work for CALD Young People – Dr Philippa Collin (ICS), Dr Michelle Catanzaro (SHCA), Dr Teresa Swist (ICS)

State of the World's Children Report UNICEF – Associate Professor Amanda Third (ICS), Dr Girish Lala (ICS), Delphine Bellerose (ICS)

Te Ao Hou: Transforming Worlds in New Zealand 1900-1950 (via University of Auckland) – Dr Fiona Cameron (ICS), Professor Dame Mary A. Salmond (University of Auckland), Professor Paul Tapsell (University of Otago), Associate Professor Conal McCarthy (Victoria University of Wellington), Dr Billie Lythberg (University of Auckland), Dr Amiria Salmond (University of Auckland/ Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology-University of Cambridge), Ms Natalie Robertson (University of Auckland)

Valuing Adaptive Re-Use of Heritage Buildings – Professor Donald McNeill (ICS), Dr Dallas Rogers (ICS)

Vietnamese Fandom of Korean Popular Culture – Professor Ien Ang (ICS), Thi Hoang (ICS), Professor David Rowe (ICS)

Western Sydney University Research Impact Assessment Grant – ARC Linkage Hot Science, Global Citizens: The Agencies of the Museum Sector in Climate Change Interventions – Dr Fiona Cameron (ICS)

Western Sydney University Research Impact Competition 2017 – Dr Philippa Collin (ICS)

## GRANTS AWARDED IN 2017 FOR PROJECTS TO COMMENCE IN 2018

### UNESCO AND THE MAKING OF GLOBAL CULTURAL POLICY: CULTURE, ECONOMY, DEVELOPMENT

**Researchers:** Professor Deborah Stevenson (ICS), Professor Justin O'Connor (Monash University), Dr Christiaan De Beukelaer (University of Melbourne), Professor Yudhishtir Raj Isar (American University of Paris), Professor Constance DeVereaux (Colorado State University), Assistant Professor Jun Wang (City University of Hong Kong), Avril Joffe (University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa)

**Funding:** Australian Research Council, Discovery Project

**Period:** 2018–2020

This project aims to influence global cultural policy and governance and the way 'actors' like UNESCO shape local policy and practice. Focusing on the global South, it will reveal complex connections between levels of governance, documenting and providing guidance on innovative policy approaches for dealing with major social, economic and development challenges. Outcomes will be compelling insights for cultural policy development and implementation, and a critical reshaping of global-local cultural dynamics to support sustainable and equitable development in the global South.

## NEW PUBLIC MANAGEMENT, ABORIGINAL ORGANISATIONS, AND INDIGENOUS RIGHTS

**Researchers:** Dr Karen Soldatic (ICS), Dr Deirdre Howard-Wagner (Australian National University), Associate Professor Janet Hunt (Australian National University),

**Funding:** Australian Research Council, Discovery Project (via Australian National University)

**Period:** 2018–2020

This project aims to understand links between recent new public management reforms, particularly in New South Wales, and the operation and capacity of successful urban Aboriginal organisations. The project will include an analysis of case studies from other international jurisdictions (such as New Zealand and Canada). Urban Aboriginal organisations have a distinctive role in society in relation to urban Aboriginal peoples and their rights to self-determination and community development. The outcomes from this project will provide evidence-based research to improve public policy understandings of the distinct role Urban Aboriginal organisations play in society, as well as insights from international comparative research.

# Publications

## KAY ANDERSON

Book chapter:

- Anderson, KJ 2017, 'Chinatown unbound', in LL Wong (ed.), *Trans-Pacific mobilities: the Chinese and Canada*, University of British Columbia Press, Vancouver, pp. 315–332.

Referred article:

- Anderson, KJ 2017, 'Chinatown dis-oriented: shifting standpoints in the age of China', *Australian Geographer*, vol. 49, no.1, pp. 133–148.

## IEN ANG

Refereed articles:

- Ang, I 2017, 'Claiming Chinatown: Asian Australians, public art and the making of urban culture', *Journal of Australian Studies*, vol. 41, no. 3, pp. 336–350.
- Ang, I 2017, 'What are museums for?: the enduring friction between nationalism and cosmopolitanism', *Identities*, vol. 24, no. 1, pp. 1–5.

Book chapters:

- Ang, I 2017, 'Sydney's Chinatown and the rise of China', in C Ming Wang & DPS Goh (eds), *Precarious belongings: affect and nationalism in Asia*, Rowman & Littlefield, New York, pp. 203–218.
- Ang, I & Wong, A 2017, 'From Chinatown to China's town? the newest Chinese diaspora and the transformation of Sydney's Chinatown', Yuk Wah Chan & Sin Yee Koh, (eds), *New Chinese migrations: mobility, home and aspirations*, Routledge, London, pp. 21–38.

## SARAH BARNES

Refereed articles:

- Barnes, S, Cosgrave, E, Acuto, M & McNeill, D 2017, 'Digital infrastructures and urban governance', *Urban Policy and Research*, vol. 35, no. 1, pp. 20–31.
- Barnes, S 2017, 'Visions of urban informatics: from proximate futures to data-driven urbanism', *Fibreculture Journal*, vol. 29, pp. 1–20.

## TONY BENNETT

Book:

- Bennett, T, Cameron, F, Dias, N, Dibley, B, Harrison, R, Jacknis, I, & McCarthy, C 2017, *Collecting, ordering, governing: anthropology, museums and liberal government*, Duke University Press, Durham.

Referred article:

- Bennett, T 2017, 'Science-anthropology-literature: the dynamics of intellectual fields', *History of the Human Sciences*, vol. 30, no. 3, pp. 131–145.

## DENIS BYRNE

Book chapters:

- Byrne, D 2017, 'Museums, religious objects, and the flourishing realm of the supernatural in modern Asia', in G Buggeln, C Paine, & SB Plate (eds), *Religion in museums: global and multidisciplinary perspectives*, Bloomsbury Academic, London, pp. 71–79.
- Byrne, D 2017, 'Encountering migration heritage in a national park', in H Silverman, E Waterton, & S Watson (eds), *Heritage in action: making the past in the present*, Springer, Basel, pp. 91–103.

Referred articles:

- Byrne, D 2017, 'Remembering the Elizabeth Bay reclamation and the holocene sunset in Sydney Harbour', *Environmental Humanities*, vol. 9, no.1, pp.40–59.
- Byrne, D 2017, 'Stories from the sandstone: quarantine inscriptions from Australia's immigrant past by Peter Hobbins, Ursula K. Frederick and Anne Clarke', *Archaeology in Oceania*, vol. 52, no. 3, pp. 199–200.

## FIONA CAMERON

Book:

- Bennett, T, Cameron, F, Dias, N, Dibley, B, Harrison, R, Jacknis, I, & McCarthy, C 2017, *Collecting, ordering, governing: anthropology, museums and liberal government*, Duke University Press, Durham.

Book chapter:

- Cameron, F & McCarthy, C 2017, 'Producing the Māori as he was', in T Bennett, FR Cameron, N Dias, B Dibley, R Harrison, I Jacknis & C McCarthy, *Collecting, ordering, governing: anthropology and liberal government*, Duke University Press, Durham.

## PHILIPPA COLLIN

Book chapter:

- Collin, P, Notley, T & Third, A 2017, 'Cultivating (digital) capacities: a role for social living labs?', in M Dezuani, M Foth, K Mallan & H Hughes (eds), *Digital participation through social living labs*, Chandos Publishing, Amsterdam.

Refereed article:

- Swist, T & Collin, P 2017, 'Introducing a "networked-capability approach": the role of platforms, people and places for children's rights in the digital age', *New Media and Society*, vol. 19, no. 5, pp. 671–685.

## ANDREA CONNOR

Book:

- Connor, A 2017, *The political afterlife of sites of monumental destruction: reconstructing affect in Mostar and New York*, Routledge, London.

## LOUISE CRABTREE

Refereed articles:

- Crabtree, L 2017, 'Transitioning around the elephant in the room: resilience, property and the fate of cities', *City*, vol. 21, no. 6, pp. 883–893.
- Crabtree, L 2017, 'Unsettling impact: responding to cultural complexity', *Australian Geographer*, vol. 48, no. 4, pp. 427–435.



## Report:

- Campbell, M, Crabtree, L, Davis, V, Keltie, E, Madden, S, Flouris, A, Third, A & Hendery, R 2017, *Keeping strong: digital technology, participatory research, and young people's wellbeing amongst Alice Springs Town Camp communities*, Young and Well Cooperative Research Centre, Melbourne.

**BEN DIBLEY**

## Book:

- Bennett, T, Cameron, F, Dias, N, Dibley, B, Harrison, R, Jacknis, I, & McCarthy, C 2017, *Collecting, ordering, governing: anthropology, museums and liberal government*, Duke University Press, Durham.

**KATHERINE GIBSON**

## Referred article:

- Mathie, A, Cameron, J, & Gibson, K 2017, 'Asset-based and citizen-led development: using a diffracted power lens to analyze the possibilities and challenges', *Progress in Development Studies*, vol. 17, no. 1, pp. 54–66.

**GAY HAWKINS**

## Book chapters:

- Hawkins, G 2017, 'Plastics', in I Szeman, J Wenzel, & P Yaeger (eds), *Fueling culture: 101 words for energy and environment*, Fordham University Press, US, pp. 271–274.
- Hawkins, G 2017, 'Ethical blindness: plastics, disposability and the art of not caring', in V Kinnunen & A Valtonen (eds), *Living ethics in a more-than-human world*, University of Lapland, Finland, pp. 15–28.

## Referred article:

- Hawkins, G 2017, 'The Impacts of bottled water: an analysis of bottled water markets and their interactions with tap water provision', *Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews: Water*, vol. 4, no. 3, doi:10.1002/wat2.1203.

**STEPHEN HEALY**

## Referred articles:

- Borowiak, C, Safri, M, Healy, S, & Pavlovskaya, M 2017, 'Navigating the fault lines: race and class in Philadelphia's solidarity economy', *Antipode*, doi:10.1111/anti.12368.
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**BOB HODGE**

## Book:

- Coronado, G & Hodge, B 2017, *Metodologías semióticas para análisis de la complejidad*, ISBN 978-164007248-0.

## Book chapters:

- Hodge, B 2017, 'Social semiotics', in T Miller (ed.), *The Routledge companion to global popular culture*, Routledge, US, pp. 36–44.
- Hodge, B 2017, 'Discourse analysis', in T Bartlett & G O'Grady (eds), *The Routledge handbook of systemic functional linguistics*, Routledge, UK, pp. 520–532.

**PAUL JAMES**

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- James, P 2017, 'Vers une Compréhension Globale des Systèmes Alimentaires par les Cercles de vie Sociale', in C Brand, N Bricas, D Conaré, B Daviron, J Debru, L Michel, & CT Soulard (eds), *Construire des politiques alimentaires urbaines: concepts et démarches*, Quae, France, pp. 109–117.

- James, P 2017, 'Alternative paradigms for sustainability: decentring the human without becoming posthuman', in K Malone, S Truong, & T Gray (eds), *Reimagining sustainability in precarious times*, Springer, Singapore, pp. 29–44.
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- James, P 2017, 'Humanitarian intervention?: responding ethically to globalising violence in the age of mediated violence', in A Warren & D Grenfell (eds), *Rethinking humanitarian interventions in the 21st century*, Edinburgh University Press, Edinburgh, pp. 145–163.
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- James, P 2017, 'On being religious: towards an alternative theory of religion and secularity', *The Occasional Papers, Institute for Culture and Society (tOPICS)*, vol. 8, no. 2.
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**DONALD MCNEILL**

## Book:

- McNeill, D 2017, *Global cities and urban theory*, Sage, London.

## Refereed articles:

- McNeill, D 2017, 'Start-ups and the entrepreneurial city', *City*, vol. 21, no. 2, pp. 232–239.
- Barns, S, Cosgrave, E, Acuto, M & McNeill, D 2017, 'Digital infrastructures and urban governance', *Urban Policy and Research*, vol. 35, no. 1, pp. 20–31.

## LIAM MAGEE

### Refereed articles:

- Swist, T, Magee, L, Phuong, J & Sweeting, D 2017, 'The labour of communicating publics: participatory platforms, socio-technical intermediaries and pluralistic expertise', *Communication and the Public*, vol. 2, no. 3, pp. 210–225.
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## BRETT NEILSON

### Refereed article:

- Mezzadra, S & Neilson, B 2017, 'On the multiple frontiers of extraction: excavating contemporary capitalism', *Cultural Studies*, vol. 31, no. 2, pp. 185–204.

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## GREG NOBLE

### Book chapters:

- Noble, G & Tabar, P 2017, 'The "career" of the migrant: time, space and the settling process', in M Boese & V Marotta (eds), *Critical reflections on migration, 'race', and multiculturalism: Australia in a global context*, Routledge, London, pp. 255–270.
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- Noble, G 2017, '"Asian fails" and the problem of bad Korean boys: multiculturalism and the construction of an educational "problem"', *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, vol. 43, no. 14, pp. 2456–2471.
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## EMMA POWER

### Refereed articles:

- Power E, 2017, 'Housing governance and senses of home in older age: the provider scale', *Journal of Housing for the Elderly*, vol. 31, no. 3, pp. 193–212.
- Power E, 2017, 'Housing, home ownership and the governance of ageing', *Journal*, vol. 183, no. 3, pp. 233–246.
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- Power, E 2017, 'For renters, making housing more affordable is just the start', in J Walton (ed.), *Conversation Yearbook 2017: 50 Standout Articles from Australia's Top Thinkers*, Melbourne University Press, Carlton, pp. 167–169.

## SHANTHI ROBERTSON

### Refereed articles:

- Robertson, S, Harris, A & Baldassar, L 2017, 'Mobile transitions: a conceptual framework for researching a generation on the move', *Journal of Youth Studies*, pp. 1–15, doi: 10.1080/13676261.2017.1362101.
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## NED ROSSITER

### Refereed articles:

- Rossiter, N 2017 'Paranoia is real: algorithmic governance and the shadow of control', *Media Theory*, vol. 1, no. 1, pp. 88–102.
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## DAVID ROWE

### Book Chapters:

- Parry, KD, Rowe, D, George, ES & Hall, TJ 2017, 'Healthy sport consumption: moving away from pies and beer', in D Parnell & P Krustup (eds), *Sport and health: exploring the current state of play*, Routledge, London.
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## TIM ROWSE

#### Book:

- Rowse, T 2017, *Indigenous and other Australians since 1901*, New South Press, Sydney.

#### Book chapters:

- Rowse, T & Watt, E 2017, "'The North": colonial hegemony and Indigenous stratification', in J Gregory, L Layman & S Macintyre (eds), *A historian for all seasons: essays for Geoffrey Bolton*, Monash University Publishing, Clayton, pp. 204–235.

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## JUAN FRANCISCO SALAZAR

#### Book:

- Salazar, JF, Pink, S, Irving, A & Sjöberg, J (eds) 2017, *Anthropologies and futures: researching emerging and uncertain worlds*, Bloomsbury, London.

#### Book chapters:

- Salazar, JF 2017, 'Antarctica in digital culture: politics of representation and visualisation in art and science', in K Dodds, AD Hemmings & P Roberts (eds), *Handbook on the politics of the Antarctic*, Edward Elgar, Cheltenham.
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## KAREN SOLDATIC

#### Book:

- Soldatic, K & Johnson, K 2017, *Disability and rurality: identity, gender and belonging*, Routledge, London.

#### Book chapters:

- Soldatic, K & Sykes, D 2017, 'Poverty and people with a disability', in K Serr (ed.), *Thinking about poverty (4th edition)*, Federation Press, Sydney.
- Soldatic, K & Morgan, H 2017, "'The way you make me feel': shame and the neoliberal governance of disability welfare subjectivities in Australia and the UK", in J Louth & M Potter (eds), *Edges of identity: the production of neoliberal subjectivities*, Chester University Press, Chester.
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#### Refereed articles:

- Kandasamy, N, Soldatic, K & Samararatne, DW 2017, 'Peace, justice and disabled women's advocacy: Tamil women with disabilities in rural post-conflict Sri Lanka', *Medicine, Conflict and Survival*, vol. 33, no. 1, pp. 41–59.
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## DEBORAH STEVENSON

#### Refereed articles:

- Kenna, T, Goodman, R & Stevenson, D 2017, 'Privatising the suburbs: examining the trends and implications of 20 years of private residential development in Sydney, Australia', *Geographical Research*, vol. 55, no. 3, pp. 269–282.
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## MALINI SUR

#### Refereed articles:

- Elinoff, E, Sur, M & Yeoh, BSA 2017, 'Constructing Asia: an introduction', *City*, vol. 21, no. 5, pp. 580–586.
- Sur, M 2017, 'The blue urban: colouring and constructing Kolkata', *City*, Special Issue on Constructing Asia, vol. 21, no. 5, pp. 597–606.
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## TERESA SWIST

#### Refereed articles:

- Swist, T & Magee, L 2017, 'Academic publishing and its digital binds: beyond the paywall towards ethical executions of code', *Culture Unbound: Journal of Current Cultural Research*, vol. 9, no. 3, pp. 240–259.
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## AMANDA THIRD

#### Book chapter:

- Collin, P, Notley, T & Third, A 2017, 'Cultivating (digital) capacities: a role for social living labs?', in M Dezuani, M Foth, K Mallan & H Hughes (eds), *Digital participation through social living labs*, Chandos Publishing, Amsterdam.

#### Refereed article:

- Livingstone, S & Third, A 2017, 'Children and young people's rights in the digital age: an emerging agenda', *New Media and Society*, vol. 19, no. 5, pp. 657–670.

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- Third, A, Bellerose, D, Diniz De Oliveira, J, Lala, G & Theakstone, G 2017, *Young and online: children's perspectives on life in the digital age (The state of the world's children 2017 companion report)*, Sydney, Western Sydney University, DOI: 10.4225/35/5a1b885f6d4db.
- Campbell, M, Crabtree, L, Davis, V, Keltie, E, Madden, S, Flouris, A, Third, A & Hendery, R 2017, *Keeping strong: digital technology, participatory research, and young people's wellbeing amongst Alice Springs Town Camp communities*, Young and Well Cooperative Research Centre, Melbourne.
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- Livingstone, S, Lansdown, G & Third, A 2017, *The case for a UNCRC General Comment on Children's Rights and Digital Media: A report prepared for the Office of the Children's Commissioner of England*. London, LSE Consulting.

## EMMA WATERTON

#### Books:

- Lean, G, Staiff, R & Waterton, E (eds) 2017, *Travel and representation*, Berghahn, New York.
- Tolia-Kelly, D, Waterton, E & Watson, S (eds) 2017, *Heritage, affect and emotion: politics, policies and infrastructures*, Routledge, Abingdon.
- Silverman, H, Waterton, E & Watson, S (eds) 2017, *Heritage in action: making the past in the present*, Springer, Cham.

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- Lean, G, Staiff, R & Waterton, E 2017, 'Travel and representation: past, present and future', in G Lean, R Staiff & E Waterton (eds), *Travel and representation*, Berghahn, New York, pp. 1–21.

- Waterton, E, Watson, S & Silverman, H 2017, 'An introduction to heritage in action', in H Silverman, E Waterton & S Watson (eds), *Heritage in action: making the past in the present*, Cham, Switzerland, Springer, pp. 3–16.
- Saul, H & Waterton, E 2017, 'Restoring a Nyingma Buddhist Monastery, Nepal', in H Silverman, E Waterton & S Watson (eds), *Heritage in action: making the past in the present*, Cham, Springer, Cham, pp. 33–46.
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- Tolia-Kelly, D, Waterton, E & Watson, S 2017, 'Affecting heritage', in D Tolia-Kelly, E Waterton & S Watson (eds), *Heritage, affect and emotion: politics, policies and infrastructures*, Routledge, Abingdon, pp. 1–11.
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- Waterton, E & Dittmer, J 2017, 'Affecting the body: cultures of militarism at the Australian War Memorial', in D Tolia-Kelly, E Waterton & S Watson (eds), *Heritage, affect and emotion: politics, policies and infrastructures*, Routledge, Abingdon, pp. 47–74.
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## MEGAN WATKINS

#### Refereed articles:

- Watkins, M, Ho, C & Butler, R 2017, 'Asian migration and education cultures in the Anglo-sphere', *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, vol. 43, no. 14, pp. 2,283–2,299.
- Watkins, M 2017, "'We are all Asian here": multiculturalism, selective schooling and responses to Asian success', *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, vol. 43, no. 14, pp. 2,300–2,315.
- Watkins, M 2017, 'Can space teach?: theorising pedagogies of social order', *Geographical Research*, vol. 55, no. 1, pp. 80–88.
- Watkins, M 2017, 'Time, space and the scholarly habitus: thinking through the phenomenological dimensions of field', *Educational Philosophy and Theory*, pp. 1–9.

## JESSICA WEIR

#### Refereed article:

- Weir, JK & Duff, N 2017, 'Who is looking after country? Interpreting and attributing land management responsibilities on native title lands', *Australian Journal of Public Administration*, vol. 76, no. 4, pp. 426–442.

## ALEXANDRA WONG

#### Book chapter:

- Rogers, D, Nelson, J & Wong A 2017, 'Full house: how property pressures impact intercultural relations', in G Earl (ed.), *Disruptive Asia: Asia's rise and Australia's future*, Asia Society Australia, Sydney, pp. 47–50.

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- Rogers, D, Wong, A & Nelson, J 2017, 'Public perceptions of foreign and Chinese real estate investment: intercultural relations in Global Sydney', *Australian Geographer*, vol. 48, no. 4, pp. 437–455.
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# Publications (School-based Members)

## JAMES ARVANITAKIS

### Book:

- Fredriksson, M & Arvanitakis, J (eds) 2017, *Property, place and piracy*, Routledge, London.

### Refereed article:

- Arvanitakis, J, Fredriksson, M & Schillings, S 2017, 'Bellamy's rage and beer's conscience: towards a pirate methodology', vol. 9, no. 3, pp. 260–276.

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- Lay, N & Arvanitakis, J 2017, *Young people in Greater Western Sydney: beyond stereotypes*, Youth Action, NSW.

## BRETT BENNETT

### Refereed articles:

- Bennett, B 2017, "'If we go along with the mood of the moment, our books become tombstones in graveyards no one visits anymore': Interview with Tony Hopkins', *Itinerario*, vol. 41, no. 1, pp. 3–14.
- Bennett, B & Barton, G 2017, 'Generalizations in global history: dealing with diversity without losing the big picture', *Itinerario*, vol. 41, no. 1, pp. 15–25.
- Bennett, B 2017, 'Decolonization, environmentalism and nationalism in Australia and South Africa', *Itinerario*, vol. 41, no. 1, pp. 27–50.

## KYLIE BUDGE

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- Budge, K 2017, 'Beyond folding and gathering: museums attending to the new materiality', *Museum and Society*, vol. 15, no. 1, pp. 33–42.
- Budge, K 2017, 'Objects in focus: museum visitors and Instagram', *Curator: The Museum Journal*, vol. 60, no. 1, pp. 67–85.

## ROBYN BUSHELL

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- Bushell, R 2017, 'Healthy tourism', In MK Smith & L Puczko (eds.), *The Routledge Handbook of Health Tourism*, Routledge, London, pp. 91–102.

- Staiff, R & Bushell, R 2017, 'What of heritage in a mobile world?: negotiating heritage/tourism/community in Luang Prabang, Laos', in H Silverman, E Waterton, & S Watson (eds), *Heritage in action: making the past in the present*, Springer, Cham, pp. 169–182.

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## HART COHEN

### Book:

- Cohen, H 2017, *The Strehlow archive: explorations in old and new media*, Routledge, London.

## ANN DADICH

### Book:

- Beech, N, MacIntosh, R, Krust, P, Kannan, S & Dadich, AM 2017, *Managing change: enquiry and action*, Cambridge University Press, Port Melbourne.

### Book chapter:

- Dadich, AM & Hodgins, M 2017, 'How to promote youth well-being across sectors: an evaluation of the YHRK', in D Potocnik & A Salikau (eds), *Needles in haystacks: finding a way forward for cross-sectoral youth policy*, Council of Europe Publishing, France, pp. 227–239.

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- Bragge, P, Grimshaw, J, Lokker, C, Colquhoun, H, The AIMD Writing/Working Group & Dadich, AM 2017, 'AIMD - a validated, simplified framework of interventions to promote and integrate evidence into health practices, systems, and policies', *BMC Medical Research Methodology*, vol. 17, no. 38, pp. 1–11.

- Karimi, L, Dadich, AM, Fulop, L, Leggat, SG, Rada, J, Hayes, KJ & Fitzgerald, A 2017, 'Empirical exploration of brilliance in health care: perceptions of health professionals', *Australian Health Review*, vol. 41, no. 3, pp. 336–343.

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## SHEREE GREGORY

### Refereed article:

- Gregory, S & Brigden, C 2017, 'Gendered scenes: conceptualising the negotiation of paid work and child-care among performers in film, television and theatre production', *Media International Australia*, vol. 163, no. 1, pp. 151–162.

## NICHOLE GEORGEOU

### Refereed articles:

- Georgeou, N & Hawksley, C 2017, 'Challenges for sustainable communities in Solomon Islands: food production, market sale and livelihoods on Savo Island', *Portal: Journal of Multidisciplinary International Studies*, vol. 14, no. 2, pp. 67–86.
- Couch, J & Georgeou, N 2017, 'Do immersion tours have long-term transformative impacts on students?: a study of Australian university students in a Tibetan host community in India', *Journal of Applied Youth Studies*, vol. 2, no. 2, pp. 18–35.

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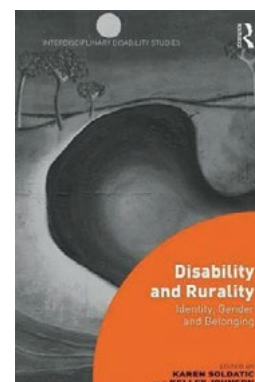
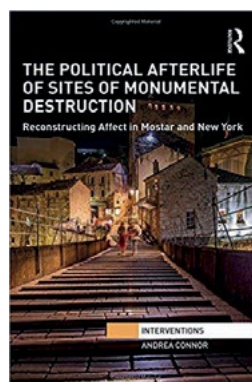
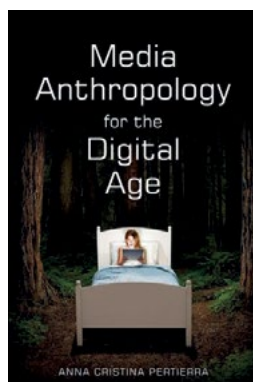
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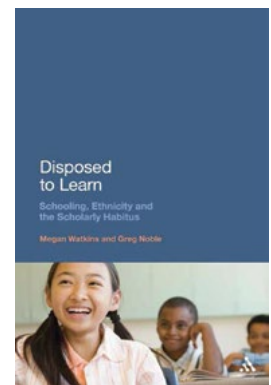
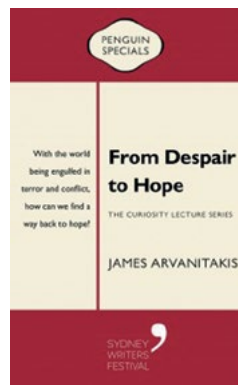
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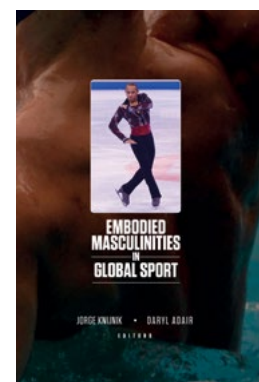
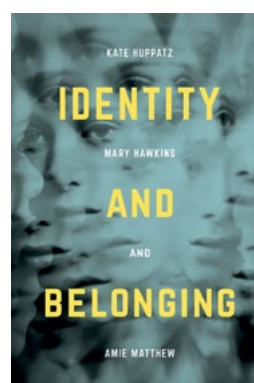
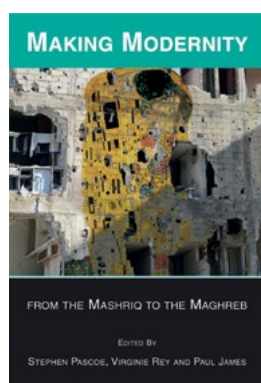
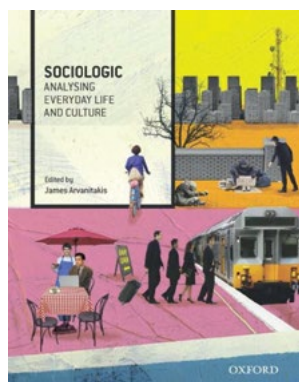
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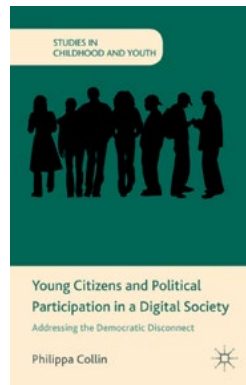
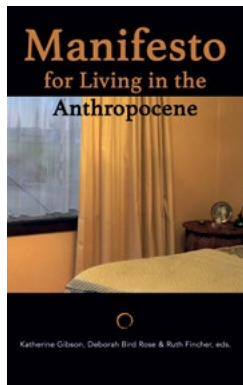
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# ENGAGEMENT



ICS researchers' Dr Girish Lala, Delphine Bellerose and Associate Professor Amanda Third at the launch of 'The 2017 State of the World's Children Report – Children in A Digital World' and the ICS-authored report, 'Young and Online: Children's Perspectives on Life in a Digital World (2017 State of the World's Children Companion Report)'. The reports were launched by UNICEF Australia and Western Sydney University in December 2017.



# Engagement Director's Report



In 2017 the Institute continued to consolidate and develop its approach to engagement and impact, amongst growing academic and policy focus on these. The Institute's foundational essay on research impact was lightly revised for publication in *Australian Geographer* and attracted a thoughtful response regarding the legacy and ongoing role of geographers as vital contributors to, and critical analysts of, both academic theory and public policy.<sup>1</sup> ICS researchers in all disciplines continue to uphold and deepen those orientations, and to inform debate on how the 'impact agenda' can be harnessed as an opportunity to strengthen the existing relevance, strengths, and rigour of our work.

To this end we have adopted the following impact principles to guide our work:

Principle 1. Having impact should be directed towards positive transformation in the world, contributing to social flourishing, while recognising the complex intersection of the different domains of social life.

Principle 2. Recognising positive impact requires ethical awareness of and reflexive engagement with the context and consequences of research, including possible unintended consequences.

Principle 3. Measuring impact positively requires the protection of individuals and communities whose rights would be infringed by making data public or naming direct outcomes.

Principle 4. Measuring research impact requires reflexive awareness to avoid the act of measurement leading to overly instrumental research or to contradictory demands on the researcher—in both cases with the research becoming directed more to measureable 'impact' than to the critical development of knowledge.

Principle 5. Research with good impact should also impact positively on the researchers and the systems of research themselves.

Principle 6. Measuring research impact needs to be done in a way that avoids having an adverse effect on researchers.

Engagement at Western Sydney University is understood as a partnership for mutual benefit between the University and its communities, be they regional, national or global. The Institute for Culture and Society (ICS) engages with its communities and partners through a vast and multifaceted array of research, teaching, advisory, and service interactions, which are a vibrant and valued element of Institute life. In 2017, the Institute hosted and participated in over 70 engaged research events. Here is a small selection:

→ Over 2,000 academics, professionals and practitioners, including ICS researchers

**Professor Katherine Gibson, Professor Paul James, Professor Donald McNeill, Dr Stephen Healy, Dr Liam Magee, Dr Teresa Swist, Dr Abby Mellick Lopes, Dan Musil and Jo McNeill**, gathered in Melbourne on 12-14 July 2017 for the *EcoCity World Summit*. The Summit was co-hosted by ICS and the Melbourne Sustainable Society Institute, and was the largest gathering of its kind, bringing together people from 34 countries to respond practically to the international ecological crisis. ICS researchers joined the Hon. Al Gore (former US Vice President and current Chair of the Climate Reality Project) as speakers at the Summit — addressing a range of topics including how best we can transition to cool future cities; sky scrapers and thermal comfort; worker-owned renewable energy manufacturing; and the ways in which public sector social procurement policies and programs can enable the establishment of robust and innovative social enterprises. To coincide with the Summit, ICS researchers also authored a number of six articles for *The Conversation* in a special series to celebrate the Summit. The articles reached more than 27,000 national and international readers.

→ On 27 September 2017, ICS researchers, **Dr Louise Crabtree** and **Professor Paul James** hosted and mentored 120 Year-Eight students from James Ruse Agricultural High School as they showcased their project work on our Parramatta South campus. Students were given one week to work in teams to prepare a response to the question, 'How can gaining a deeper understanding of the issues surrounding globalisation help us to be an agent in changing our communities?'. Topics that were addressed by the students included equality (addressing homelessness and inequality); culture (links to Aboriginal heritage and culture); sustainability (green industries and reduction of energy, waste and water demands); liveability (focusing on the community and sense of belonging); innovation (new technologies and design) and connections (global and community). This followed on from Dr Crabtree delivering guest lectures to the students at the start of their project in 2016 and 2017,

<sup>1</sup> Thom, B 2018, 'Sentinels of geography: legacy, public policy and contemporary relevance', *Australian Geographer*, vol. 49, no. 2, pp. 255-271.

and is becoming an ongoing collaboration between the University and the School.

→ On 22 November 2017, 15 ICS researchers joined hundreds of academics, practitioners and activists from 32 different countries for the fourth instalment of ICS's **Knowledge/Culture** conference series, this time themed 'Ecologies' and hosted in Santiago, Chile. The conference was co-hosted with four leading Chilean Institutions: Universidad Diego Portales; Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile; Nucleo Milenio en Energía y Sociedad and the Centre for Social Conflict and Cohesion Studies, all of whom ICS has a Memorandum of Understanding with. The first day of the conference began in Spanish, and then the subsequent three days moved back and forth between Spanish and English. This exchange across languages was part of the politics of creating dialogue across the many boundaries of continuing cultural difference. ICS's partnership with these four Chilean institutions is continuing into 2018.

→ ICS researchers, led by **Associate Professor Amanda Third**, partnered with UNICEF to produce a seminal global report that investigates the relationship, impacts, opportunities and threats of the internet and digital technology on children. The Report, entitled *The State of the World's Children 2017: Children in a Digital World* was informed by conducting workshops with 490 children aged 10–18, from different countries speaking 24 official languages. Workshop participants were asked to share their views on how and why they use digital technologies in their everyday lives, as well as their aspirations for the future of our digitally mediated world. The report was supported with a comprehensive companion report focused exclusively on children's voices, entitled *Young and Online: Children's Perspectives on Life in the Digital Age*, authored by ICS researchers. The two reports were launched at Western Sydney University's Sydney CBD campus on 12 December 2017.

→ *Conversations for the Future/City* was a series of public engagement events hosted by ICS in 2017 at our newly-erected IPSQ building in the heart of Parramatta CBD. The series brought together a public

audience of academics, practitioners, governments delegates and community members to discuss pertinent issues facing the futures of cities today. Topics explored in the three separate *Conversations* events in 2017 included, 'Playground Politics and the Migrant Experience Today' (hosted on Thursday 18 May); 'Can We Afford Not to Build Liveable Cities?' (Thursday 25 May) and 'Smart Cities Are a No-brainer' (Thursday 1 June). Each conversation featured an academic and a practitioner in dialogue.

→ On 19 May, **Dr Louise Crabtree** co-hosted *Hacking the Way Home* with federal Parramatta MP Julie Owens. The hack brought together 40 academics, architects, financiers, community groups, consultants, local government representatives, and activists together to develop innovative responses to the twin challenges of housing affordability and sustainability within the context of densification in Western Sydney. A follow-up hack is being planned for 2018.

→ Random Hacks of Kindness (RHok) Western Sydney continued in 2017 with support from Research Engagement, Development and Innovation (REDI) at Western Sydney University. The initiative was co-organised by **Dr Teresa Swist** and **Dr Liam Magee**, Dr Rachel Hendery (Digital Humanities Research Group), as well as Andrew Perry (The Collaboratory, a social innovation lab in Parramatta). Key events included the Winter Hackathon, held in June, which focused on three particular projects: a coding clinic, a blockchain-based community solar energy experiment, plus a platform to connect volunteers with organisations (badging their contributions). Participants had a range of background and skills, including: university students, community members, researchers, a father-daughter team, as well as local politician Julie Owens MP (Labor Federal Member in Australian Parliament). In November, the group organised a Writing Hack which invited participants to pitch an abstract, take part in writing sprints and share progress over the course of the day to develop a personal or group writing project. An output from this was the journal article 'Prototyping through Play: Sketches from an Urban Satellite Region Hackathon'. This

will be published in a forthcoming special issue of *Trace Journal: How We Make*.

→ A 'Sustainable Cities Collaboratory' has been initiated by the City of Berlin and Western Sydney University, with Brussels, Buenos Aires, Dakar, Guangzhou, Johannesburg, Madrid, Mexico City, and Paris, signed up to the project. The Collaboratory, led by **Professor Paul James**, **Dr Liam Magee**, **Associate Professor Juan Francisco Salazar** and their German colleagues, as part of the Circles Project, addresses the global agenda of sustainable development, and gathers together a group of pioneering cities seeking actively to inspire change towards *positive* sustainability. The project aims to achieve the following goals:

1. To integrate diverse narratives, instruments, models and data sets into one innovative platform that provides cities with a long-term perspective for exchanging their experiences of implementing the New Urban Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals;
2. To establish an agreed set of principles of sustainable development, which connect cities from different geographical contexts and with different and differently articulated challenges;
3. To develop practical guidelines for sustainable urban development within specific key themes that concern cities as well as the Metropolis presidency; and
4. To create a reproducible structure of local urban collaboratories that connects politicians, planners, researchers and representatives of civil society.

**Dr Louise Crabtree**  
**ICS Director of Engagement**



# RESEARCH TRAINING



ICS Higher Degree Research students.



# Higher Degree Research Director's Report



**The year 2017 was an intense period of Higher Research Degree (HDR) activity at the ICS with numerous training events throughout the year and a focus on supporting its expanding cohort of domestic and international students during their candidature and setting them up for success beyond.**

Fourteen students commenced HDR programs within the ICS during 2017: nine PhDs, one Doctor of Cultural Research and four Masters of Research (M.Res.) students. Four of the PhD students: Kate Naidu, Francesca Sidoti, Marina Khan and Billy Pringle, were awarded PhD scholarships following the completion of their M.Res., with Kate and Francesca earlier in the year, the first from across Western Sydney University (WSU) through this new doctoral pathway. Another student, Jian Lin, is completing a dual degree developed between WSU and the University of Amsterdam. ICS also saw nine of its students graduate with PhDs during the year.

The ICS is noted for its intensive program of HDR training. In 2017 this involved 16 workshops that examined a range of topics including those dealing with stages of a student's candidature such

as the Confirmation of Candidature and Ethics processes, various methodological approaches, for example, Ethnographies of Digital Objects, Researching Social and Cultural Temporalities and Doing Autobiography, aspects of sociocultural theory: What is Theory? How do we use it? How to Research Algorithms and Commons; and Commodities: Knowledge, Natural Resources and the Construction of Property. These workshops were presented by ICS researchers and also a number of visiting academics including Dr Armin Beverungen from the Centre for Digital Cultures at Leuphana University, Dr Heather Ford from the University of Leeds, Professor Simone Fullagar from the Department for Health at the University of Bath, Dr Martin Fredriksson from the Department of Thematic Studies at Linköping University and Professor Dick Hobbs from the Department of Sociology at the University of Essex.

Two standout events for 2017 were the Mid-Year HDR Conference in July and the 'Beyond the PhD: Thinking about an Academic Career?' workshop in September. Organised by ICS HDR Representative, Pryor Placino, and Postgraduate Liaison Officer, Christiane Kuhling, the first of these allowed ICS HDR students to showcase their work to a broader HDR audience. With the conference topic of Messing with Methods, panels of M.Res. and PhD students presented on aspects of methodology central to their own research and responded to academics who were invited discussants. The day concluded with the ICS round of the Three Minute Thesis competition won by Cecilia Hilder, runner up Sebastian Martin Valdez and Karen Sy De Jesus was given the People's Choice Award. This was a worthwhile addition to the program and will be included in the 2018 Mid-Year HDR Conference providing another forum for students to not only present their work but to do so in a concise and engaging manner — a useful skill in 'pitching' one's work to others. Preparing students for life beyond the PhD was the focus of the second standout event of 2017. This workshop included presentations from a recently completed PhD student on publishing plans post-completion, early career researchers on postdoctoral opportunities and grant writing and a more senior academic on job interviews for academic positions. As with many of the HDR events, this workshop was also open to PhD students

in Schools, in particular, Humanities and Communication Arts, Social Sciences and Psychology and Education.

In addition to its extensive training program, the ICS has sought to support students in various other ways. With the ICS having an increasing number of international students — for example, the current cohort includes those from: India, Nepal, Bangladesh, China, United Kingdom, Philippines, Italy, Bulgaria, Brazil, United States, Canada, Turkey, Vietnam, New Zealand and the Netherlands — in 2017 a mentoring program was established to assist these students settle into Sydney. Third and fourth-year international PhD students are now paired with new international students contacting them prior to arrival to assist them with matters such as settling into life in Australia, navigating Western Sydney HDR processes, getting to know who's who at the ICS and encouraging them to attend ICS HDR social events. As mentors, students were initially paid, funded through the M.Res. bonus to ICS Supervisors. Although this is no longer offered, students have been keen to continue the program into 2018 given the valuable support it provides newly commencing international students and the important contribution it makes to the ICS HDR community.

Another initiative in 2017 was the development on the ICS HDR Student Compact. This document, compiled by the ICS HDR Committee with input from the ICS HDR Representative, outlines ICS's expectations of HDR students during their candidature. While specifying both annual and once-in-candidature requirements, its intention is to ensure students participate in a wide range of activities to equip them with the required academic vocational skills to ensure they are 'career ready' following completion of their PhD. Of course, the additional benefit of students involving themselves in activities such as the HDR workshops, ICS weekly seminars and assisting with the organisation of these and other activities is the contribution it makes to the already strong research culture within ICS with students being a vital element in its ongoing commitment to innovative and engaged research.

**Associate Professor Megan Watkins**  
ICS HDR Director

## List of 2017 HDR Graduates

GIVEN NAMES	THESIS TITLE	PRINCIPAL SUPERVISOR
Shanna Robinson	Experimental Travel and Anti-Touristic Encounters	Robyn Bushell
Joanne McNeill	Embedding Social Innovation Outcomes in Local and Regional Development Policy: A Case for Social Procurement	Katherine Gibson
Neroli Colvin	Rethinking Multiculturalism/Reassessing Multicultural Education	Megan Watkins
Megan Clement-Couzner	Imagining Equitable Futures: Feminist Economic Activism Across the Diverse Economy	Katherine Gibson
Keith Parry	The Cult Hero in Professional Sport	David Rowe
Li (Jenny) Ching Yee	Public Libraries and the Reconfiguration of the Public Sphere	Donald McNeill
Giulia Dal Maso	Young Chinese Knowledge Workers Employed by Transnational Companies	Brett Neilson
Ece Kaya	Impacts of Urban Transformation on Cultural Heritage: A Cultural Tourism Route in Australia	Robyn Bushell
Isaac Lyne	Social Enterprise - Practice and Theory	Katherine Gibson

# Current ICS HDR Candidates and Dissertation Topics

- Ilia Antenucci, *Beyond the Cloud. Security and the Making of Digital Cities in Cape Town and Kolkata.* Supervisor: Brett Neilson, Co-Supervisor: Jessica Whyte — PhD
- Helen Barcham, *Beyond the 'Docile Subject': Women's Entanglements with Therapy Culture as Ethical Self-Making.* Supervisor: Tanya Notley, Co-Supervisor: Penny Rossiter — PhD
- Utsab Bhattacharai, *Resilience Building: A Study of Livelihood Management Practices of the Sherpa People in the Khumbu (Everest) Region, Nepal.* Supervisor: Robyn Bushell, Co-Supervisors: Emma Waterton and Felicity Picken — PhD
- Christopher Cheng, *Translocal Built Environment of Chinese Emigration from the Pearl River Delta to Australia.* Supervisor: Denis Byrne, Co-Supervisors: Ien Ang and Jocelyn Chey — PhD
- Cecelia Cmielewski, *Identity and Utopia: Arts Policy in the Co-production of Multicultural Australia.* Supervisor: Greg Noble; Co-Supervisor: Ien Ang — PhD
- Alexandra Coleman, *The Socio-Cultural Experiences of Students from Western Sydney Who Are the First in Their Family to Attend University.* Supervisor: George Morgan; Co-Supervisor: Penelope Rossiter and Shanthi Robertson — PhD.
- Matt Dalziel, *What Role Does Socio-economic Status Play in Determining the Digital Information Seeking Behaviours Amongst Year 11 Students Considering Post-Secondary Career Options?* Supervisor: Jerry Watkins; Co-Supervisor: Megan Watkins — PhD
- Karen Sy de Jesus, *Quo Vadis, Chinese Diaspora? Cultural Identities in the Transnational Social Field.* Supervisors: Ien Ang and Shanthi Robertson — PhD
- Luigi Di Martino, *Digital Diplomacy: New Strategies for a Social Public Diplomacy.* Supervisor: Ien Ang; Co-Supervisor: Greg Noble — PhD
- Xuegang Fan, *Alternative Food Networks in China: New Peasantry and Reproduction of Alternative Agricultural Space.* Supervisors: Katherine Gibson and Stephen Healy — PhD
- Kecia Fong, *Challenging Conservation: Negotiating Space, History, and Culture.* Supervisor: Donald McNeill; Co-Supervisors: Emma Waterton and Deborah Stevenson — PhD
- Sera Harris, *Social Workers and Technology: Rethinking Relationships in Practice.* Supervisor: Amanda Third, Co-Supervisors: Brian Robert Stout and Bob Hodge — PhD
- Cecilia Hilder, *Young People's Digital Practices and Australian Youth-Led Activist Groups.* Supervisor: Philippa Collin; Co-Supervisors: Amanda Third and Tanya Notley — PhD
- Ha Hoang, *Korean Popular Culture, Vietnamese Fan Practices and Transculturalism.* Supervisor: Ien Ang; Co-supervisors: David Rowe and Anna Cristina Pertierra — PhD
- Tsvetelina Hristova, *Transformation of Professional Work Through Digital Mobility of Labour: The Case of Teleradiology.* Supervisor: Brett Neilson; Co-Supervisor: Kathleen Robertson — PhD
- Sky Hugman, *Cross-Sector Knowledge Sharing.* Supervisor: Amanda Third; Co-Supervisor: Philippa Collin — PhD
- Clinton Johnson, *Complicating Nation? Examining Federally Funded Touring Exhibition in an Assemblage Framework.* Supervisors: Deborah Stevenson and Emma Waterton — PhD
- Marina Khan, *Technological Spaces and Network Governance: Transformations in the Australian Migration Industry.* Supervisor: Shanthi Robertson; Co-Supervisor: Tanya Notley — PhD
- Amrita Limbu, *Everyday Social Protection of Transnational Families: Nepali Migration to Australia.* Supervisor: Shanthi Robertson; Co-Supervisor: Brett Neilson — PhD
- Jian Lin (joint award with University of Amsterdam), *Creative Labour in the Cultural Industries of China: Self-realisation, Governmentality and Subjectivity.* Supervisor: Ned Rossiter — PhD
- Kelly Menzel, *Exploring the Need to Recruit Aboriginal Health Practitioners in Mainstream Healthcare Settings.* Supervisors: Louise Crabtree and Karen Soldatic — DCR
- Luke Munn, *Ferocious Logics: Unmaking the Algorithmic.* Supervisor: Ned Rossiter, Co-supervisor: Juan Francisco Salazar — PhD
- Daniel Musil, *'Co-Operating for a Just Transition': Relationships to Economy, Work, Low-Carbon Transition and the Earthworker Cooperative.* Supervisor: Katherine Gibson; Co-Supervisors: Louise Crabtree and Gerda Roelvink — PhD
- Jasbeer Musthafa Mamalipurath, *Conceptualisation of Discourse About Islam on a Secular Platform.* Supervisor: Shanthi Robertson; Co-Supervisors: Adam Possamai, Jennifer Cheng — PhD
- Kate Naidu, *Issues of 'Interculturality' in Indonesian Language Teaching.* Supervisor: Greg Noble; Co-supervisor: Megan Watkins — PhD
- Pryor Aldous Placino, *Lively Stones: A Study of Informal Sand, Gravel and Rubble Mining in the Philippines.* Supervisor: Katherine Gibson; Co-Supervisor: Stephen Healy — PhD
- Andrea Pollio, *The Startup of Solidarity: Economic Experts, Social Enterprises and the Reengineering of Humanitarianism in Cape Town.* Supervisor: Donald McNeill, Co-Supervisor: Sarah Barns — PhD
- Cali Prince, *The Fourth Space: Cultivating Collaborative Creativity in Praxis, at the Intersection of People and their Communities, Artists and Institutions.* Supervisor: Philippa Collin; Co-Supervisors: Gabriela Coronado, James Arvanitakis — PhD



- Billy Pringle, Is the Political 'Moment' of 'Brexit' and the Election of Donald Trump to the Office of US President Reshaping Australian Political Discourse, Particularly Discourses of Neoliberalism? Supervisor: Gregory Noble; Co-Supervisor: Brett Neilson — PhD
- Gina Rocafort Gatarin, Moving in Managed Chaos: Social Movements Changing Manila's Transport System. Supervisor: Paul James; Co-Supervisor: Anna Cristina Pertierra — PhD
- Sajal Roy, Long-term Effects of Extreme Weather Events on Rural Livelihoods and Gender Relations: A Case Study of the Cyclone Aila's Impacts on the Shora (Muslim) and Munda (Hindu) Sundarbans Forest Communities of Bangladesh. Supervisor: Liam Magee; Co-Supervisor: Penny Rossiter — PhD
- Ozgur Sahin, City as Stage, City on Stage: Governing the City Through Performances. Supervisor: Deborah Stevenson; Co-Supervisor: Donald McNeill — PhD
- Francesca Sidoti, Young Adults and the Disclosure of Choice. Supervisor: George Morgan; Co-supervisor: Greg Noble — PhD
- David Spillman, Exploring Collaborative Competence. Supervisor: Bob Hodge; Co-Supervisor: Louise Crabtree — DCR
- Ian Steep, An Inquiry Into the Lived Experiences of Nepalese Students Studying at Australian Third Party Providers of Higher Education Using Bourdieu's Theory of Practice. Supervisor: Megan Watkins; Co-Supervisor Tania Ferfolja — PhD
- Alejandra Villanueva, Shaping Up Bodies: An Ethnography of Masculinities and Physical Training in Sydney. Supervisors: Greg Noble and George Morgan — PhD
- Vanessa Whittington, Landscape, Affect and the Role of Heritage Interpretation. Supervisors: Emma Waterton and Denis Byrne — PhD

## THESIS UNDER EXAMINATION IN 2017

- Michael Hartup, Young Musicians' Experiences of Vulnerability and Resilience within their Music-Making Practice. Supervisor: Amanda Third; Co-Supervisor: Philippa Collin — PhD
- Christiane Kühling, Photography and Tourism in Contemporary India. Supervisor: Denis Byrne; Co-Supervisor: Emma Waterton — PhD
- Harriette Richards, Fashioning Melancholia: A Cultural History of Sartorial Representation in Aotearoa New Zealand. Supervisor: Amanda Third; Co-Supervisors: Dimitris Vardoulakis and Alison Moore — PhD
- Tayanah O'Donnell, Exploring the Coastal Lawscape: Legal Geographies of Climate Change Adaptation in Two New South Wales Localities. Supervisor: Donald McNeill; Co-Supervisor: Louise Crabtree — PhD
- Timothy Ström, Mapping Google Maps: Critiquing an Ideological Vision of the World. Supervisors: Paul James and Liam Magee — PhD
- Nigel Eades, The Impact of Culture and Communication: Living in Immigration Detention - Supervisor: Paul James; Co-Supervisors: Bob Hodge — DCR
- Jack Parkin, Money/Code/Space: The Cultural Economy of Bitcoin. Supervisor: Donald McNeill; Co-Supervisor: Ned Rossiter and Sarah Barns — PhD

## THESIS COMPLETED WITH APPROVAL TO GRADUATE IN 2018

- Hermann Ruiz Salgado, Challenges and Possibilities of Transitional Justice Narrative. Supervisor: Katherine Gibson; Co-Supervisor: Dr Stephen Healy — PhD
- Mithilesh Kumar, State and the Working Class in the Making of the Global Metropolis of Delhi. Supervisor: Brett Neilson; Co-Supervisor: Ned Rossiter — PhD
- Sebastian Martin Valdez, Communication Rights and Media Policies in Argentina: An Ethnographic Approach. Supervisor: Juan Francisco Salazar; Co-Supervisors: James Arvanitakis and Tanya Notley — PhD

# Higher Degree Research Publications

## A selection of the publications produced by ICS HDR students in 2017:

- Andrews, P & Harris, S 2017, 'Using live supervision to teach counselling skills to social work students', *Social Work Education: The International Journal*, DOI: 10.1080/02615479.2016.1270929.
- Bhattarai, U 2017, 'Impacts of climate change on biodiversity and ecosystem services: direction for future research', *Hydro Nepal*, vol. 20, pp. 41-48, DOI: 10.3126/hn.v20i0.16488.
- Lyne, I 2017, 'Social enterprise and the everydayness of precarious indigenous Cambodian villagers: challenging ethnocentric epistemologies', in C Essers, P Dey, D Tedmanson & K Verduyn (eds), *Critical perspectives on entrepreneurship: challenging dominant discourses*, Routledge, London.
- Richards, H 2017, 'Dreaded culture: the appropriation of a culture of resistance in Aotearoa New Zealand', *Fashion, Style & Popular Culture*, vol. 4, no. 2, pp. 215-230.
- Roy, S 2017, 'Women and disaster in South Asia: survival, security and development', *Gender, Place & Culture*, pp. 1-2.
- Roy, S 2017, 'Book review: *Living in the Anthropocene: earth in the age of humans*', *Environment and History*.
- Roy, S 2017, 'Book review: *women and girls: vulnerable or resilient?*', *Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bangladesh (Humanities)*, vol. 62, no. 2, pp. 251-254.
- Xiao, H, Liu, Z & Cheng, C 2017 'Consultants as knowledge brokers: issues and implications for China tourism research', *Journal of China Tourism Research*, vol. 13, no. 1, pp. 103-122.

# Higher Degree Research Workshop Program 2017

## **Wednesday 15 February**

*ICS HDR Orientation*

Greg Noble, Institute for Culture and Society

## **Thursday 23 March**

*How to Research Algorithms*

Armin Beverungen, Centre for Digital  
Cultures, Leuphana University Lüneburg

## **Wednesday 26 April**

*What is Theory? How do we use it?*

Paul James, Institute for Culture and Society

## **Wednesday 17 May**

*Doing Autoethnography*

Denis Byrne, Institute for Culture and Society

## **Tuesday 6 June**

*Framing the Research Project*

Bob Hodge, Institute for Culture and Society

## **Tuesday 13 June**

*The Confirmation of Candidature Process*

Megan Watkins, Institute for Culture  
and Society

## **Friday 7 July**

*Analysing Media as a Historical  
Subject and Source*

Rafael Fortes, Department of Social  
Sciences, Federal University of the State  
of Rio de Janeiro

## **Thursday 13 July**

*Ethnographies of Digital Objects*

Heather Ford, University of Leeds

## **Wednesday 26 July**

*Mid Year HDR Mini Conference*

## **Tuesday 15 August**

*Structure, Structure, Structure*

Greg Noble, Institute for Culture and Society

## **Thursday 31 August**

*The Ethics Process*

Merrilee Kessler, Ethics Officer, Western  
Sydney University

## **Thursday 19 September**

*Interviewing 101*

Megan Watkins, Institute for Culture  
and Society

## **Thursday 19 October**

*Lived Time: Researching Social and  
Cultural Temporalities*

Shanthi Robertson, Institute for Culture  
and Society

## **Wednesday 1 November**

*Ethnographic Research*

Dick Hobbs, Institute for Culture and  
Society and Department of Sociology,  
University of Essex

## **Tuesday 7 November**

*Getting Started with NVivo: Importing,  
Organising and Coding Your Data*

Emma Power, Institute for Culture and Society

## **Wednesday 15 November**

*PhD Supervision as Improvisation:*

*Creating Collaborative Learning Cultures and  
Student Supervisor Relations*

Simone Fullagar, Department for Health,  
University of Bath

## **Friday 1 December**

*Commons and Commodities: Knowledge,  
Natural Resources and the Construction  
of Property*

Martin Fredriksson, Tema Q,  
Linköping University



Image taken by ICS PhD candidate Christiane Kühling in Goa, India. The image shows a tourist waiting for sunset at Goa's Beaches and Forts.



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