



MONASH  
University

# ARTS RESEARCH UPDATE

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# INTRODUCTION

## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ARC	Australian Research Council
DECRA	Discovery Early Career Research Award
DFAT	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
DP	Discovery Program Scheme
GEDSI	Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion
HASS	Humanities, Arts and Social Science
IE	Industry Fellowships
LLCL	School of Languages, Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics
MCCCRH	Monash Climate Change Communication Research Hub
MFJ	School of Media, Film and Journalism
MGFVPC	Monash Gender and Family Violence Prevention Centre
MISC	Monash Indigenous Studies Centre
MRFF	Medical Research Future Fund
SASS	School of Arts and Social Sciences
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SoSS	School of Social Sciences
SoPHIS	School of Philosophical, Historical and Indigenous Studies
SZCSOMP	Sir Zelman Cowen School of Music and Performance

## PROJECT ICONS

	First Nations involvement
	International partnerships
	Industry and/or community partnerships
	PhD student involvement

# FOREWORD



Welcome to the first edition of the Arts Research Update for 2025.

This Update makes for impressive reading as it traverses the work of scholars located across and between the Humanities, Performing Arts and Social Sciences. It details an array of high-quality books and journal articles, Higher Degree Research completions, new research projects, Alumni achievements and enterprise activities, including the story of a ground-breaking intervention to improve quality of life for older Australians. You will also find two new sections that have been introduced to the Update, 'Spotlight on Arts Publication' and 'Spotlight on PhD Research Internships'.

A focus of this edition is on Geopolitical Security. You will find original research about the complex dynamics of colonisation through to the championing of the musical heritage and educational rights of Afghan citizens, as well as cinematic encounters with disaster. I also note and congratulate recent award winners, including Dr Michelle Liu and Dr Chris Urwin in the School of Philosophical, Historical and Indigenous Studies. Both Dr Liu and Dr Urwin have been named 'Rising Stars' among early and mid-career researchers by the Australian Academy of Humanities.

Continuing our emphasis this year on the global challenge of climate change, in May we hosted a Faculty-wide forum to better connect the wide range of climate change and environmental humanities research being undertaken across the Faculty. The event involved presentations and participation from researchers in all six of our Schools, with colleagues sharing their work and building thematic connections towards larger programs of work. This event was also an opportunity to hear from the teams supported through our internal Environmental Research Program Accelerator grants. You can read more about the thematic areas developed at this forum in the Update below.

Finally, on behalf of the Faculty, I offer a warm welcome to all the new appointees who are profiled. We look forward to supporting your work and celebrating your achievements in future Updates.

**[Professor Katie Stevenson](#)**  
Dean of Arts

Monash University seeks to foster a society that recognises, respects and supports Indigenous peoples, cultures and knowledge. The University will contribute to the creation of this society by partnering with and celebrating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, cultures and knowledge, as well as Indigenous peoples in Malaysia, Indonesia and other locations where Monash has a campus or major presence.

Research in Monash Arts seeks to foreground and amplify Indigenous cultures, histories, research methodologies, theories and practices. The [Monash Indigenous Studies Centre](#) performs a pivotal role in this amplification across the Faculty and University and has done so since 1964 when it was founded as the Centre for Research into Aboriginal Affairs. Building on this rich history, the Faculty aims to be an employer of choice for Indigenous research leaders and staff. The Faculty also conducts research of the highest standards in accordance with the [AIATSIS Code of Ethics for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research](#).

# CLIMATE CHANGE

The global climate crisis can only be addressed through coordinated structural changes, and the humanities, creative arts, and social sciences are key to sustainable, just, resilient, and healthy futures. Monash Arts research aims to produce an evidence-base that informs policy and fosters partnerships among communities, industry, and government. It aims to develop innovative strategies for climate change mitigation, adaptation, communication, and imagining futures that centre the environment. We create practical tools for the public and policy makers to debunk misinformation, with a clear focus on how media narratives shape public understanding and policy responses.

Our research supports whole-of-government action and fosters international collaboration among industry leaders, academic institutions, and community organisations dedicated to advancing climate solutions and sustainable futures. Through innovative research methods, we aim to reach the public, engage policymakers in climate change action, and work with communities directly affected by climate change disasters.

A hallmark of our work is our commitment to **co-design methodologies** that incorporate lived experiences into every stage of research and solution development. In doing so, we give voice to often marginalised or overlooked communities. Our researchers actively collaborate with communities throughout Australia and the Asia-Pacific region to identify climate-related challenges and co-create strategies that enhance community resilience. Through participatory, place-based, and community-led approaches, we capture local insights to build capacity for effective climate adaptation, advocating for affected communities and for just and sustainable futures.

As a comprehensive Faculty of Arts, our researchers come from disciplines including social sciences (such as human geography, politics, anthropology and sociology), the environmental humanities (history, philosophy, languages, cultural studies), media studies, and creative and performing arts (music, theatre, performance, creative writing). This **combination enables a distinctive perspective on climate change which includes a focus on the environment as an active agent**. Centering Indigenous knowledge and creative arts storytelling, we understand the environment to be an active, interconnected partner in climate action. This perspective deepens public awareness and guides policymakers to holistic understandings of interlinked problems. **Our researchers work globally** and are based in Australia, Malaysia, and Indonesia, collaborating with researchers in Engineering, Medicine, Science, IT, Law, Design, and Education.

We pay particular attention to **everyday experiences of climate change and social justice**, uncovering barriers and enablers in disaster response. Our research acknowledges that understanding systemic climate risks is critical for formulating policies and strategies that are resilient and adaptive. In doing so, we advocate for a shift from traditional, siloed risk assessments to holistic approaches that recognise the interdependencies of national and global systems. This focus allows us to reveal how people-centered political narratives and social practices drive change.

Our research can **support disaster preparedness and recovery strategies to account for social inequities**, an essential element for building resilience and fostering a fairer, more inclusive society. Monash Arts research on climate change can be mapped to these four themes:

- **Community resilience and climate change adaptation** informs policies for climate adaptation and community resilience by addressing cascading hazards affecting infrastructure, public health, and vulnerable populations across local and Asia-Pacific contexts.
- **Climate communication and information integrity: imagining climate futures** advances non-partisan, evidence-based climate communication by leveraging innovative media partnerships and creative digital platforms to counter misinformation, bridge regional literacy gaps, and foster participatory dialogue and policy reform for transformative climate futures.
- **Climate, Technology and Sustainable Transitions** explores how social dynamics, technological innovation, governance, and policy intersect to drive transformative climate mitigation, adaptation, and sustainable resource management across diverse contexts.
- **Voicing the environment as a catalyst for environmental and social awareness** positions the environment as an active, interconnected protagonist, drawing on Indigenous perspectives and immersive creative arts, to catalyse environmental stewardship, social awareness and transformative action.



## Latest projects

### INTEGRATED SUSTAINABLE MANGROVE-CARBON-AQUACULTURE SYSTEMS (SMACA)

[Dr Benjamin Thompson](#) (SoSS), Associate Professor [Vanessa Wong](#) (Faculty of Science), [Astra Rushton-Allan](#) (ClimateWorks Centre)

#### Knowledge Partnership Platform (KONEKSI) DFAT



Funded by the KONEKSI Scheme, this groundbreaking research tackles biodiversity loss, climate change, and food security by pioneering a Sustainable Mangrove-Carbon-Aquaculture system. In Indonesia, where rapid aquaculture expansion threatens mangrove forests and disrupts communities, the project integrates mangrove restoration with sustainable aquaculture to enhance ecosystem health, boost yields, absorb atmospheric carbon and improve local livelihoods.

Through collaboration with the Institut Teknologi Bandung (ITB), conservation NGO YKAN, and Indonesia's national research agency BRIN, this initiative seeks to transform coastal resource management. By developing, testing, and scaling this system, the research will provide actionable insights for policymakers, aquaculture businesses, and local communities to drive sustainable solutions for Indonesia's coastal future.

### SUPPORTING CLIMATE REPORTING IN INDONESIAN NEWSROOMS

[Professor Libby Lester](#), [Amelia Pearson](#) (MCCCRH), [Kate Torney](#) (MFJ), [Dessy Rosalina](#) (Monash Indonesia) and colleagues from the Australia Indonesia Centre

#### DFAT



This project will support Indonesian journalists across the Makassar region to strengthen their climate and energy reporting, and in turn, help communities navigate a changing world. It will provide tools to support telling of the climate story clearly, accurately and with a focus on solutions.

The project explores the challenges newsrooms face when covering the climate and energy transition. It will also examine journalist perspectives on how well their audiences understand climate topics, and their ability to effectively communicate the science and solutions.

This knowledge will shape workshops that aim to build journalists' understanding of climate science and effective climate communication which they can embed in their professional practice and newsrooms.

The project will draw upon shared climate challenges across Australia and Indonesia, creating space for knowledge exchange. As a pilot, it aims to develop a model that can be replicated, adapted, or scaled in other communities. Participants will gain access to a network of academic experts and tools, providing opportunities for ongoing collaboration ensuring lasting impact in newsrooms.

### EMPOWERING YOUTH FOR CLIMATE ACTION

[Amelia Pearson](#), [Professor Libby Lester](#) and [Dr Lucy Richardson](#) (MCCCRH)

#### City of Casey Council



Young people need opportunities to engage in climate action and educators require the skills to facilitate this engagement inside and outside of STEM subjects. This pilot project aims to equip high school students with the knowledge and practical tools to address climate change in their homes, schools and communities.

Over 12 months, this project brings together teachers and students from schools in the City of Casey alongside local scientists to co-design hands-on climate and energy lesson plans aligned with the Victorian Curriculum. These tools will then be trialled in the classroom via a mixed-method, action-research project with the schools, facilitating feedback opportunities throughout.

## COLONIAL LOAD AND CULTURAL CONFLICT

[Dr Bhiemie Williamson](#) (NIDR)

Natural Hazards Research Australia



This project seeks to understand and quantify the experiences of Indigenous staff and volunteers working within Australian emergency, land management and resilience sectors. Funded by Natural Hazards Research Australia (NHRA) through a partnership with the Australasian Fire And Emergency Services Authorities Council (AFAC), this project will improve our understanding of the causes of, and contributing factors to, colonial conflict and cultural load that Indigenous staff and volunteers within NHRA partner organisations experience, with a particular focus on the industry-specific causes.

The research aims to measure the level of participation of First Nations staff and volunteers in Australia's natural hazard agencies, explore their experiences and identify the meaning of safe, inclusive and welcoming workplaces within the emergency management sector. Researchers will develop recommendations for agencies to enable inclusive workplaces where First Nations people feel safe and welcome. This work is a critical step toward fostering long-term equity and inclusion in Australia's natural hazard response and management sectors.

## FOUNDATIONS IN INDIGENOUS DISASTER RESILIENCE

[Dr Bhiemie Williamson](#), [Nell Reidy](#) and Lucy Connole (NIDR) and colleagues from Western Sydney University and University of Melbourne

Natural Hazards Research Australia



This project seeks to understand the unique impacts of environmental disasters on Indigenous people and communities across Australia. Researchers will work with diverse Indigenous communities across Australia to document their experiences before, during and after major disasters. Drawing on the issues that emerge, researchers will develop resources to guide policy and practice across the emergency management and disaster resilience sector to better support Indigenous people and communities in the face of increasingly frequent and intense environmental disasters.

This project is funded by Natural Hazards Research Australia, and supported by the Australian Institute of Disaster Resilience.

## FIRST NATIONS WOMEN, CULTURAL FIRE KNOWLEDGE, WELLBEING AND MEMORY

[Nell Reidy](#), [Dr Bhiemie Williamson](#), and Lucy Connole (NIDR)

Natural Hazards Research Australia



Women-in-Fire Prescribed Fire Training Exchange (WTREX) is a global training program that brings women together to improve firefighting skills. Held in the United States in 2022, an Australian 12-day intensive is being held in Far North Queensland in May 2025, with a specific focus on highlighting the role of Indigenous women in fire management. AUS-WTREX is being delivered by the Queensland Fire Department in partnership with the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service, with support from AFAC. National Indigenous Disaster Resilience Researchers are conducting an independent evaluation to understand how participation in the AUS-WTREX program impacts Indigenous women's physical, emotional, social and spiritual wellbeing.

This research was proposed by the Queensland Fire Department and is funded by Natural Hazards Research Australia.

## HYDROGEN HUB FUTURES

[Dr Kari Dahlgren](#), Hilman Fathoni and Leo Hayward (SoSS)

ARC DECRA

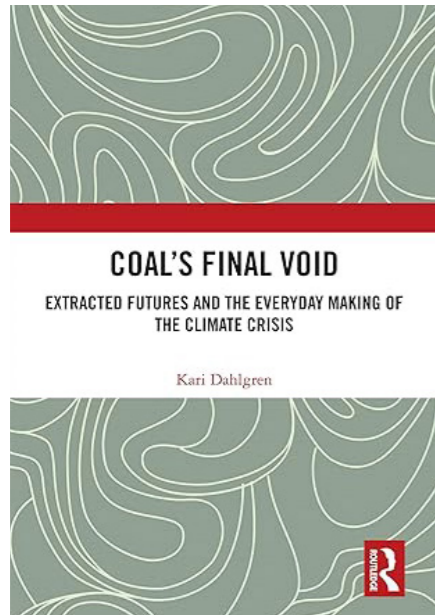


Hydrogen Hub Futures aims to critically examine Australia's emerging hydrogen industry, focusing on its decarbonisation, economic and social benefits while assessing the hydrogen hub model's impact on regional communities. The first large ethnographic study of Australia's emerging hydrogen industry will provide new insights into industrial decarbonisation's social dimensions, shaping policy recommendations that integrate community perspectives into hydrogen development planning and the future of decarbonised industry.

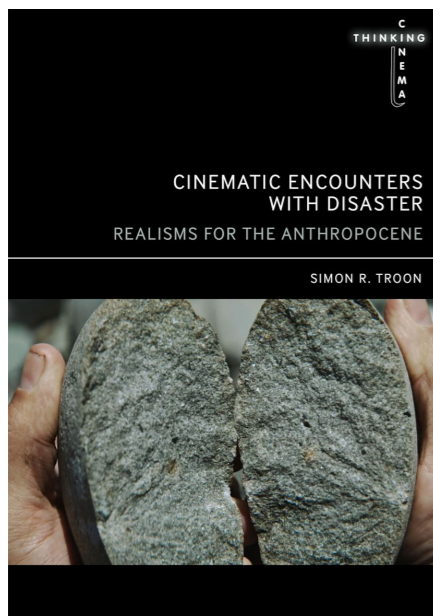
With hydrogen a key driver of economic growth and emissions reduction, regional hydrogen hubs are positioned as a key model to decarbonise heavy industry. However, there are numerous challenges to their implementation, including their relationship to local communities, which remains largely unexamined. This research will engage with the emerging industry and affected communities to ensure the hydrogen industry delivers its promised benefits while accounting for local needs. Key outcomes include a documentary film capturing community experiences and a policy report to inform sustainable and socially responsible hydrogen development.

## Publications

### SELECT BOOKS



[Dahlgren, K](#) 2025, [Coal's Final Void: Extracted Futures and the Everyday Making of the Climate Crisis](#). 1st edn, Routledge, Abingdon UK



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Bishop, ML, Bouhia, R, Carter, SG, [Corbett, J](#), Lindsay, C, Scobie, M & Wilkinson, E 2024, [Sustaining Development in Small Islands: Climate Change, Geopolitical Security, and the Permissive Liberal Order](#). 1st edn, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge UK.

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[Johns-Putra, A](#), [Liu, X](#), [Cesarino, L](#), [Mai, G](#) & [Zhou, Y](#) 2024, ['Whose world? Whose world literature? Looking for climate fiction in China'](#), *Literature and the Work of Universality*. 1st edn, Walter de Gruyter, Berlin Germany, pp. 315-332

[Lindsay, J](#), [Reynolds, DO](#), [Arunachalam, D](#), [Raven, RPJM](#) & [Lane, R](#) 2024, ['Household sustainability labour and the gendering of responsibility for low waste living'](#), *Sociology*.

[Pandya-Wood, R](#), [Azhari, A](#), [Johar, H](#), [Johns-Putra, A](#), [Muhamad, N](#) & [Su, TT](#) 2024, ['Systematic review of climate change induced health impacts facing Malaysia: gaps in research'](#), *Environmental Research: Health*, vol. 2, no. 3, 032002.

[Podkalicka, A](#), [Nilsson, D](#) & [Troon, S](#) 2024, ['Popular Environmental Media in Australia: Reflections on Audience Engagement and Impact'](#), *Media International Australia*.

[Rowland, MJ](#), [Lambrides, ABJ](#), [McNiven, IJ](#) & [Ulm, S](#) 2024, ['Great Barrier Reef Indigenous archaeology and occupation of associated reef and continental islands'](#), *Australasian Journal of Environmental Management*

[View all outputs published by Faculty of Arts](#)

# GEOPOLITICAL SECURITY

We explore Australia's dynamic relationships with its regional neighbours, illuminating how these interactions shape both regional and global stability. By analysing the key factors influencing post-conflict and post-disaster recovery, we provide critical insights into community reconciliation and the realignment of security frameworks. Our research helps to identify how Pacific security cooperations could be best orientated to address current and future regional security challenges.

Arts researchers are exploring digital disruption felt within and across borders and creating evidence based, innovative approaches to counter coercive activities such as disinformation campaigns and dissemination of conspiracy. This research explores the underlying ideological, religious, political factors and the role of community/media dialogue that might contribute to extremist attitudes and actions and forms of community violence.

We are applying gender sensitive approaches to stability and security building efforts in the Asia Pacific and globally. Our research unravels the structural drivers of violence against women, offering actionable insights that aid in dismantling these deep-rooted challenges and promoting safer, more equitable communities.



## Latest projects

**CIVIL-MILITARY-POLICE COOPERATION: CONNECTING GENDER INCLUSION, GENDER RESPONSIVENESS AND OPERATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS**

[Dr Eleanor Gordon](#), [Dr Ross Hendy](#), Jen Wittwer, Llani Kennealy, [Dr Richard Fosu](#) (SoSS)

Australian Civil Military Centre



This project investigates the links between gender inclusion, gender responsiveness and operational effectiveness in conflict and crises that involve civil-military-police cooperation.

The research is looking to strengthen understanding of what emerging civil-military-police requirements look like now and into the future by investigating the alignment between gender inclusion and gender responsiveness in conflict and crisis response, and how this connection can foster civil-military-police cooperation, engagement and responsiveness to the needs of diverse communities and operational effectiveness. The Australian Civil-Military Centre (ACMC) and Monash University's Global Peace and Security Centre (Monash GPS) will engage with the Australian Defence Force, Australian Federal Police and Australian Border Force in a mixed-methods, co-design approach for practically focused and outcomes driven research.

**TITLE REGISTRATION FOR A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW: THE EFFECTIVENESS OF INTERVENTIONS TO INCREASE TRUST IN GOVERNMENT IN DEMOCRATIC CONTEXTS: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW**

[Dr Zarina Vakhitova](#), [Dr Kathryn Benier](#) and [Professor Kerry O'Brien](#) (SoSS) and colleagues from Deakin

[Campbell Collaboration](#)

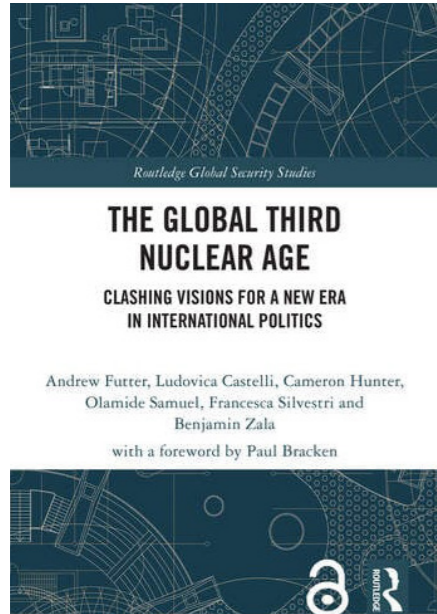


Across the world, public trust in government is declining—a trend that threatens the stability of democratic institutions and the effectiveness of public policy. This project addresses this urgent issue by identifying and assessing what works to improve trust in government.

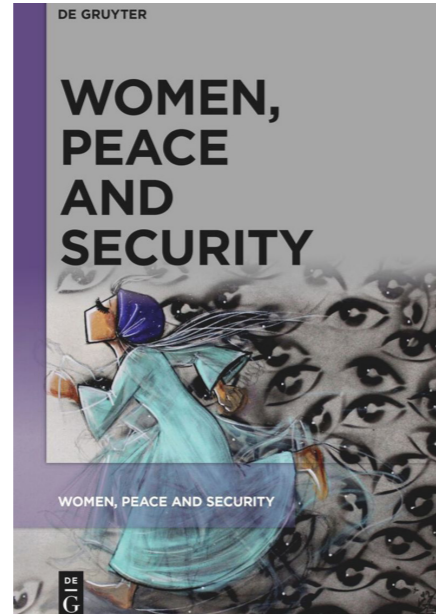
The project undertakes a global review of existing research to understand which interventions (such as improving transparency, encouraging citizen participation, or addressing corruption) are effective in building trust. By collecting and analysing this evidence, the aim is to learn how governments can earn and maintain the confidence of the communities they serve. This is an internationally scoped project led by a multidisciplinary team.

## Publications

### SELECT BOOKS



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Davies, SE, [True, J](#), Riveros Morales, Y, Oo, P, Osei-Tutu, JAO & Banfield, RN 2024, [The Dynamics of Conflict Related Sexual and Gender Based Violence: Comparing Impact Across Global Regions](#). 1st edn, Walter de Gruyter, Berlin Germany.

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Scheyer, V, [True, J](#) & [Bonotti, M](#) 2025, [Analysing power and gender dynamics in the German far-right network: a feminist approach to social network analysis](#), European Journal of Politics and Gender.

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[Ang, S](#) & Martin, F 2024, [Pandemic politics and the rise of immigration: online attitudes towards Westerners and the west in China](#), Global Networks-A Journal of Transnational Affairs, vol. 24, no. 1

[Gordon, E](#), [Gunawardana, SJ](#) & Lowe, L 2024, [Exogenous crises and Australia's development policy](#), Australian Politics at a Crossroads: Prospects for Change. 1st edn, Routledge, Abingdon UK, pp. 162-176

[Pentland, G](#) 2024, [A new political baptism: Memorializing the Reform Acts in 1832](#), Memory and Modern British Politics: Commemoration, Tradition, Legacy. 1st edn, Bloomsbury Academic, pp. 121-138.

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## SPOTLIGHT ON ARTS PUBLICATION

“McNamee asks big questions, constructs an original and provocative theory, unearths previously unused, indeed, unknown data, and compiles persuasive evidence to support his hypotheses. ... *Settling for Less* is an extraordinary first book of the sort to which authors aspire.

[Political Science Quarterly](#)

“McNamee’s emphasis on the agency of both settlers and Indigenous peoples, and the fascinating interactions between the incentives of these actors with each other and with government officials and policies, will attract the attention of readers.”

[Choice](#)

“*Settling for Less* is an essential reading for those who are interested in colonialism, ethnic conflict and secessionism, as well as their theoretical formulation and ontological embeddedness across the globe.

[Studies of Transition States and Societies](#)

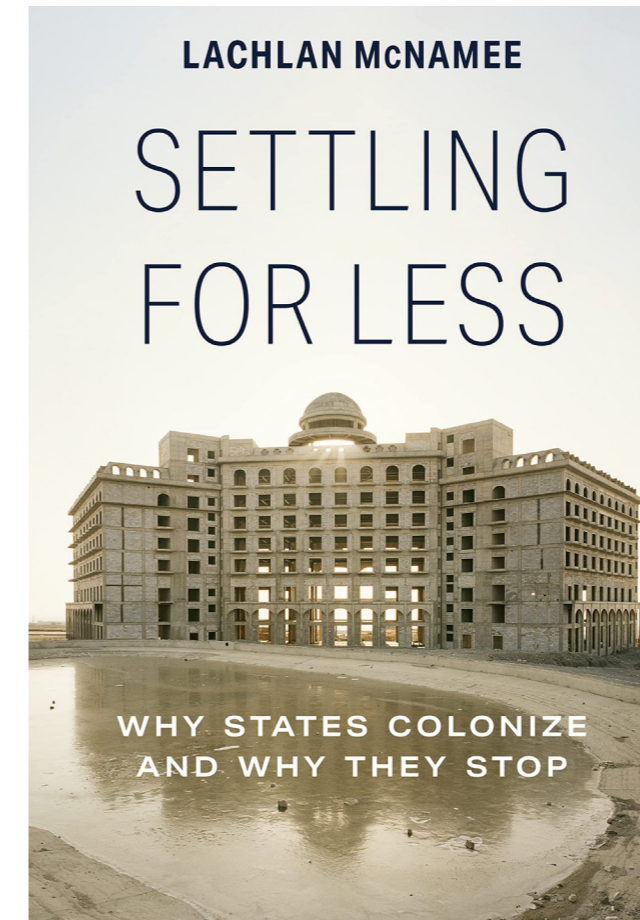
‘*Settling for Less* is nothing short of excellent... it gives us the theoretical tools to make sense of one of the macro-political processes that has shaped the contours of the modern world: settler colonialism.’

[Perspectives on Politics](#)

“THIS BOOK IS A CRYSTALLIZATION OF DIFFERENT APPROACHES ACROSS DISCIPLINES AND IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED FOR READERS INTERESTED IN THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF SETTLER COLONIALISM.

[The Developing Economies](#)

## Settling for Less: Why States Colonize and Why They Stop



### [Settling for Less: Why States Colonize and Why They Stop](#)

by [Dr Lachlan McNamee](#) is a thought-provoking exploration of the dynamics of settler colonialism. The book delves into the reasons why canonical settler colonial states, such as Australia and the United States, ceased settling frontier lands during the twentieth century, while states ostensibly committed to decolonization, like Indonesia and China, began settling the lands of minorities such as the West Papuans and Uyghurs. McNamee challenges the conventional explanations of settler colonialism, which often focus on racial ideologies or economics, and instead centres state-building and the conflicts of interest that exist between states, settlers and indigenous peoples.

McNamee’s insights into the changing dynamics of settler colonialism align with Monash’s focus on understanding and mitigating the impacts of geopolitical transformations. By illuminating the dynamics that continue to drive violent demographic change around the world today in settings ranging from Xinjiang, West Papua, to Israel/Palestine, McNamee’s research contributes to Monash’s efforts to promote human rights, social justice, and international security.

Accolades and critical acclaim from scholars and institutions worldwide underscore the transformative impact of Dr. Lachlan McNamee’s *Settling for Less: Why States Colonize and Why They Stop*. The following awards highlight the book’s exceptional contribution to understanding the complex dynamics of colonization and its global ramifications:

- [President’s Book Award](#), Social Science History Association,
- [Co-winner](#), Best Book Award: Migration and Citizenship, American Political Science Association,
- [Hedley Bull Prize, Best Book in International Relations, European Consortium for Political Research.](#)

### About the author

[Dr Lachlan McNamee](#) is a political scientist within the School of Social Sciences, Faculty of Arts. He received his PhD in Political Science from Stanford University in 2019, and since then has also been at UCLA and the European University Institute. His research focuses on the comparative politics of race and ethnicity, settler colonialism, empire, and political violence.

# THRIVING COMMUNITIES

Monash Arts research under this theme explores the mechanisms of building and sustaining stronger, more resilient communities. Our research is co-designed with communities locally, nationally and internationally to provide an evidence base needed for designing practice and policy improvements that will lead to transformative systemic and institutional changes. We explore questions of connectedness and shared values via the social, historical, and cultural factors that contribute to community development and sense of belonging. Importantly, the traditional owner-led partnerships forged with Monash Arts academics are leading to new knowledge and insights into the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples history and cultural heritage.

The research explores systemic social issues of inequality and disadvantage, intolerance, discrimination and violence. In partnership with policy makers, our research helps to create community informed and ethically focused health and wellbeing interventions.

Monash Arts research on prevention of gender and family violence and gender equality contributes to transformative social change aimed at ending family violence by providing an evidence base for policy change that better supports and protects those experiencing family violence addressing the cultural and economic drivers that underpin it.

## Latest projects

### TRAINING EDUCATORS TO LEAD CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE ACROSS DIFFERENCES

[Dr Daniel Heller](#) (SoPHIS) and Dr Farid Zaid, School of Psychological Sciences

#### Anonymous Donation



As globalisation, migration, and social polarisation reshape society, educators increasingly face challenges in managing diverse perspectives in the classroom. This project seeks to equip university educators with practical tools to foster inclusive dialogue, reduce polarisation and cultivate critical thinking and empathy among students.

The researchers will develop and test a training framework to support educators in engaging constructively with diverse viewpoints. The framework will incorporate workshops, best-practice guidelines, and adaptable curriculum examples, ensuring its relevance across varied classroom environments. A trial phase will refine the approach based on feedback and measurable outcomes, leading to a scalable model for broader implementation in schools and universities nationwide.

By fostering constructive dialogue and resilience, [the project aims to empower educators and equip students with the skills](#) needed to navigate complex global challenges leading to a more inclusive and adaptable educational landscape.

### INVESTIGATING BUILDING POLITICAL KNOWLEDGE THROUGH CIVICS AND CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION

[Associate Professor Zareh Ghazarian](#) (SoSS)

#### Whitlam Institute

What people know about politics and government matters. It impacts their capacity to make informed policy choices, hold decision makers accountable, and be active and engaged drivers of positive change. To help build the political knowledge of Australians, governments across the nation have invested in teaching young people about their rights and responsibilities through civics and citizenship education programs. The latest round of national testing of civics and citizenship, however, reveals that just 28 per cent of Year ten (10) students are meeting the proficient standard for their year level.

This fellowship investigates how civics and citizenship is taught in schools. It focuses on how teachers deliver civics and citizenship and will identify new opportunities to advance the development of political knowledge for young people. The findings will provide a robust evidence base to support teachers in designing civics classes and build momentum towards crafting resources and tools for practice and impact.

### ELDER ABUSE AND COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT

[Dr Kate Burns](#), [Professor Narelle Warren](#), [Associate Professor Bridget Harris](#), [Dr Naomi Pfitzner](#) and [Dr Kathryn Benier](#) (SoSS), [Associate Professor Cate Banks](#) (Faculty of Law), [Associate Professor Yen Ying Lim](#) (MNHS) and colleagues from the University of the Sunshine Coast and Edith Cowan University

#### Attorney-General's Department (Australia)



This project seeks to improve the understanding of the unique drivers, experiences and responses to abuse of older people with cognitive impairment. It will generate a comprehensive evidence base to enhance policy and service responses for older people with cognitive impairment facing abuse. By mapping existing services and identifying gaps, the research will inform future prevention strategies and improve support systems.

The mixed-methods project engages policy makers, service providers, practitioners and people with lived experience of elder abuse who have cognitive impairment across each State and Territory. Outcomes will drive more inclusive, effective interventions across Australia's elder care landscape.

### INDEPENDENT EVALUATION OF THE SUPPORTING RECOVERY PILOT

[Associate Professor Emily Berger](#), [Dr Violette McGaw](#), [Associate Professor Fida Sanjakdar](#), [Dr Karen Lambert](#) (Faculty of Education), [Associate Professor Bridget Harris](#), [Dr Naomi Pfitzner](#), [Dr Jasmine McGowan](#) (SoSS), [Associate Professor Sean Cowlshaw](#) (School of Psychological Sciences), [Dr Claire Blewitt](#), [Dr Long Le](#), [Dr Andrew Tan](#) (School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine)

#### Australian Department of Health, Disability and Ageing



This evaluation of the Supporting Recovery Pilot (SRP), led by Monash's Faculty of Education, is shaping the future of trauma-informed recovery care for victim-survivors of family, domestic, and sexual violence (FDSV) across Australia. The research seeks to provide crucial insights to inform policy and program development.

The SRP tests a groundbreaking approach to recovery, embedding trauma-informed care within local services to create more accessible, effective support systems. Aligned with the National Plan to End Violence Against Women and Children 2022-2032, the project explores how best to implement and sustain these services at scale. Through a collaborative, mixed-method evaluation across six Primary Health Networks, researchers are delivering evidence-based recommendations to ensure lasting impact on Australia's response to FDSV recovery and healing.



## IMPROVING THE GLOBAL MANAGEMENT OF HEALTH (MIS)INFORMATION

[Dr Jessica Kirk](#) (SoSS)

### ARC DECRA

Health misinformation and disinformation undermine efforts to test, treat and vaccinate populations, posing a challenge for governments worldwide. Despite national regulations and regional initiatives, the rise of social media and AI has amplified the spread of false information beyond government control, making global collaboration essential. While several international initiatives aim to combat health mis/disinformation, their effectiveness, challenges, and impact remain largely unexplored.

This project aims to rectify this gap by investigating and evaluating four global initiatives to address health mis/disinformation. This research will detail the effectiveness of particular initiatives, common challenges faced and best practice in addressing health mis/disinformation is. It will provide an important evidence base to enhance and develop both global responses to health mis/disinformation and the Australian government's engagement with such responses. Findings will be shared by the participant organisations, Australian policy makers, and civil society. The final report and workshop will outline successes and best practices in addressing health mis/disinformation, common challenges and barriers to be addressed and where further engagement from Australian policymakers with global bodies will be beneficial.

## WHAT IS PERCUSSION: PERCUSSION SPEAK AT 25

[Dr Louise Devenish](#) (SZCSOMP)

### Speak Percussion Inc



To celebrate its 25th anniversary, Speak Percussion, one of Australia's leading contemporary arts organisations, commissioned a series of research and creative arts projects. In collaboration with colleagues from Harvard University, the project investigates the history and development of Speak Percussion within Australian and international music landscapes.

The resulting outcomes will shed light on the contributions, developments, people and practices that have shaped the output of this organisation and examine the influence of this output on the wider arts community. These take the form of a major new performance work for three percussionists and an exhibition developed in collaboration with Grainger Museum (University of Melbourne), featuring unique musical instruments and materials, scores, archival video and audio and public talks accompanied by an exhibition catalogue including essays and interviews.

## WORD MEANINGS AND AD HOC CONCEPTS: APPLICATIONS IN PHILOSOPHY

[Dr Michelle Liu](#) (SoPHIS) and colleagues from University College London

### The British Academy - Visiting Fellowships



Language shapes the way we engage with society, influencing everything from philosophical debates to everyday conversations. This project explores how word meanings shift dynamically – how speakers often use words to convey 'ad hoc concepts,' occasion-specific meanings distinct from conventional definitions. Understanding this phenomenon can illuminate key issues in public discourse, helping resolve misunderstandings and sharpen critical discussions. This study will investigate the prevalence of ad hoc concepts and their impact on communication, offering insights into how language contributes to social, political and philosophical debates. By developing a framework to clarify linguistic disputes, the research aims to support more constructive engagement in societal discourse. As part of a broader interdisciplinary initiative, it promises to bridge linguistics and philosophy to generate practical applications for improving language use across multiple domains.

## TRANSLATOR AND INTERPRETER TRAINING PACKAGE FOR GREATER SHEPPARTON CITY COUNCIL

[Dr Leah Gerber](#), [Dr Shani Tobias](#), [Professor Rita Wilson](#) and [Mr Alex Avella](#) (LLCL)

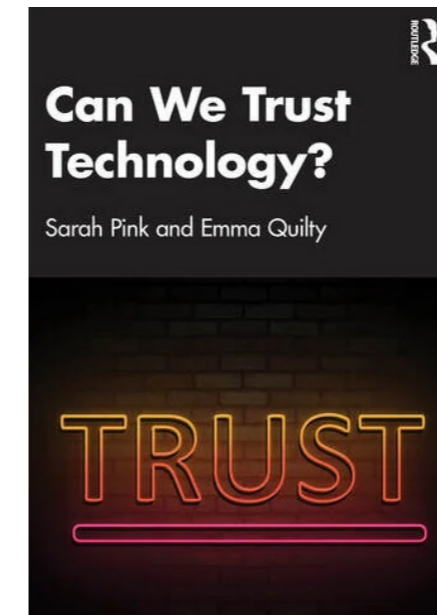
### Greater Shepparton City Council



During the catastrophic 2022 flooding event in the Greater Shepparton region, volunteers from local multicultural communities played a key role in helping non-English speakers to evacuate safely and access support. In response to this catastrophic event, the Council commissioned Monash to design and deliver an innovative training package, providing residents of the Greater Shepparton region access to introductory translator and interpreter training. A major focus is 'interpreting in natural disasters', as well as a 'working with interpreters' session for key stakeholders, ensuring that service providers in areas such as health, justice and emergency management learn how to apply best practice in their work with interpreters assisting members of the multicultural community. The project includes the first ever Thriving in Regional Communities Industry Expo, which brings together key stakeholders from the language services industry and regional communities. The project aims to build a mentoring program of future trainers from the regions in order to replicate in other Victorian regional areas.

## Publications

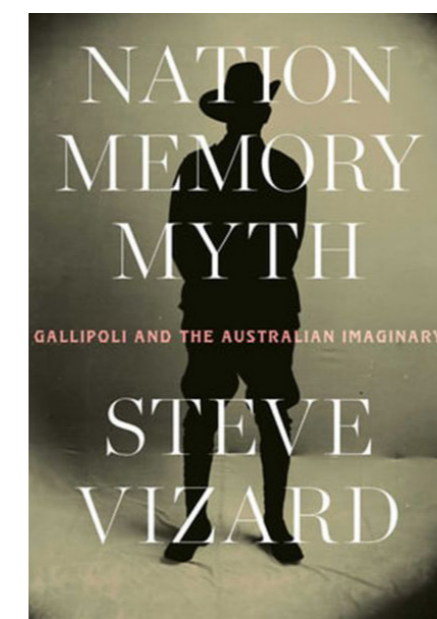
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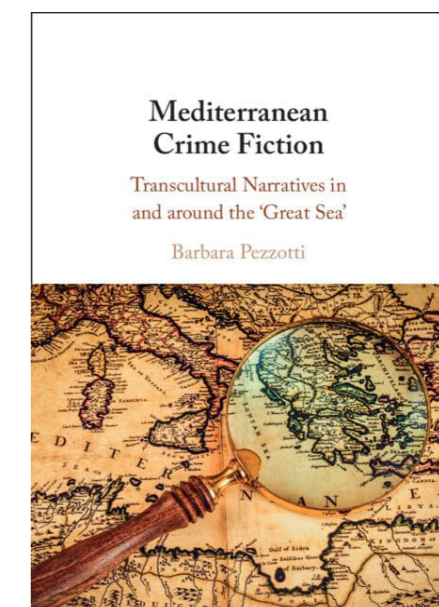
Pink, S & Quilty, E 2025, [Can We Trust Technology?](#). 1 edn, Routledge, New York.



Fahim, M & Nazmul, M 2025, [War, Humanity and Media: The Middle Eastern Media on the Russia-Ukraine War](#). Ankara University Press, Ankara Turkey.



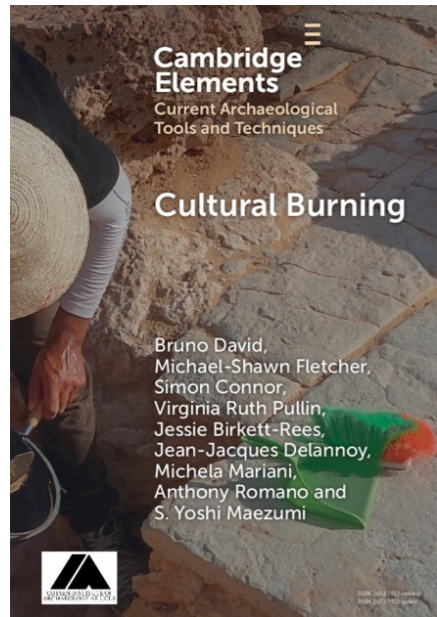
[Vizard, S](#) 2025, [Nation, Memory, Myth: Gallipoli and the Australian Imaginary](#). 1st edn, Melbourne University, Melbourne Vic Australia.



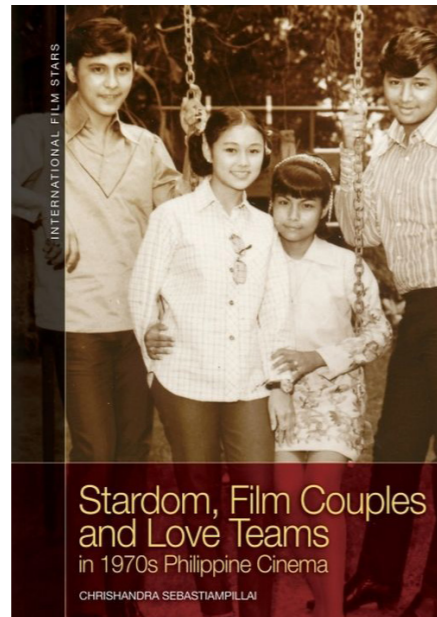
[Pezzotti, B](#) 2024, [Mediterranean Crime Fiction: Transcultural Narratives In and Around the 'Great Sea'](#). 1st edn, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge UK.

# Publications

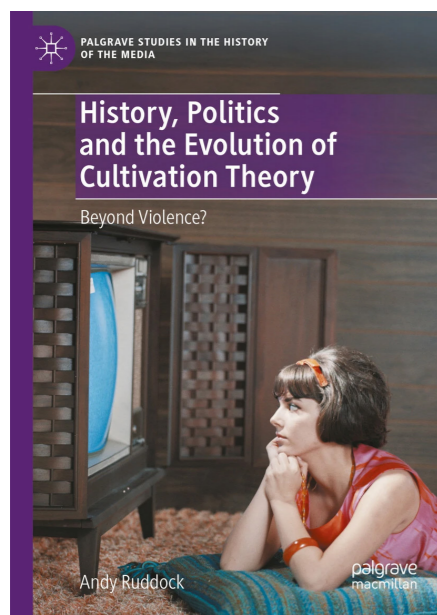
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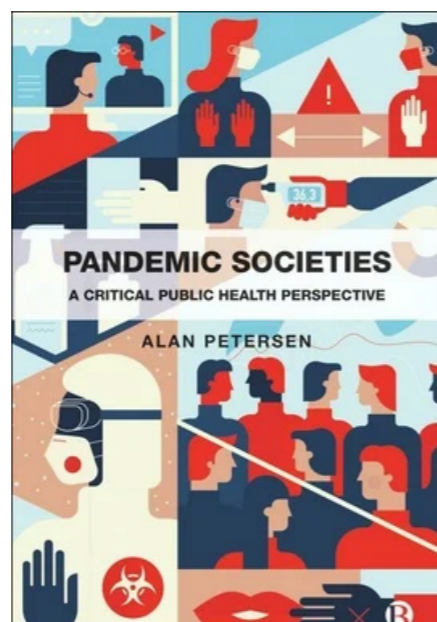
[David, B.](#), Fletcher, M, Connor, S, Pullin, VR, [Birkett-Rees, J.](#), Delannoy, J, Mariani, M, Romano, A & Maezumi, SY 2024, *Cultural Burning*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge UK.



[Sebastiampillai, C](#) 2024, *Stardom, Film Couples and Love Teams in 1970s Philippine Cinema*. 1st edn, Edinburgh University Press, Edinburgh UK.



[Ruddock, A](#) 2024, *History, Politics and the Evolution of Cultivation Theory: Beyond Violence?*. 1st edn, Palgrave Macmillan, Cham Switzerland.



[Petersen, A](#) 2024, *Pandemic Societies: A Critical Public Health Perspective*. Bristol University Press, Bristol UK.

## SELECT RESEARCH OUTPUTS

[Saunders, B.](#), [Lansdell, G](#) & [Eriksson, A](#) 2025, 'Supporting people with an acquired brain injury (ABI) involved in the criminal justice system: justice and allied health professionals' insights', *Psychiatry, Psychology and Law*.



[Aziz, A](#) 2025, *Food on display: connecting home (land) and identity negotiation of the Rohingya refugees in Brisbane City*. *Inclusive Cities and Global Urban Transformation: Infrastructures, Intersectionalities, and Sustainable Development*. 1st edn, Springer, Singapore Singapore, pp. 211-221.



[Dershowitz, I](#) & Pat-El, Na 2025, 'The forgotten meaning of תּוֹרָה' *Vetus Testamentum*.



Sikka, P, Tuominen, J, Nassar, AE, [Kirberg, M.](#), Loukola, V, Revonsuo, A, Valli, K, [Windt, J.](#), Bekinschtein, TA & Noreika, V 2024, 'COVID-19 on mind: daily worry about the coronavirus is linked to negative affect experienced during mind-wandering and dreaming', *Emotion*, vol. 24, no. 1, pp. 177-195



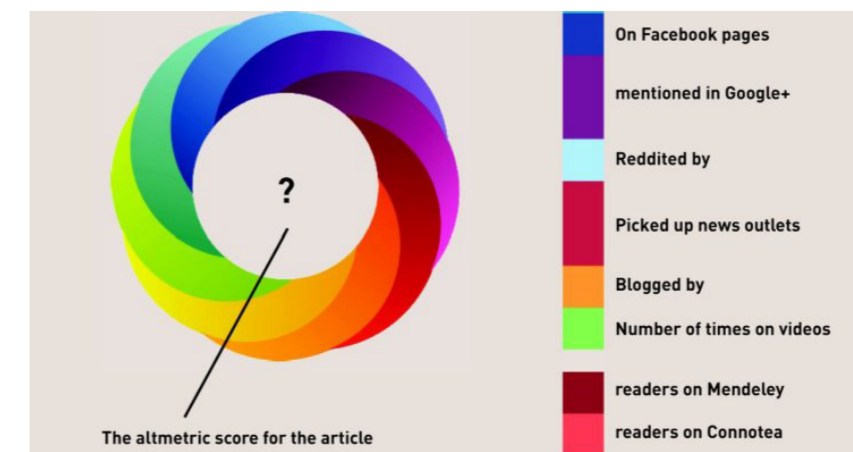
Jones, C, [Roberts, S](#) & [Robards, B](#) 2024, 'White warriors and weak women: identifying central discourses of masculinity in neo-Nazi telegram channels', *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism*



[Cheung, H](#) 2024, 'Navigating stigmatized motherhood: self-stigma of single mothers with mental illness in Thailand', *South East Asia Research*.

[View all outputs published by Faculty of Arts](#)

### ALTMETRICS KEY



# PARTNERSHIP FOR IMPACT IN COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

“*The ACVVS is a dearly loved program which provides extended support to vulnerable older people. In the department we receive feedback and stories all the time from older people and volunteers about how ACVVS has impacted on their lives in bringing this important connection and meaning.*

**Kirsten Turner**

Director, Advocacy and Volunteering Section  
Department of Health, Disability and Ageing,  
Australian Government



Scan the QR code to access  
the video on YouTube

The Aged Care Volunteer Visitors Scheme (ACVVS) is a visionary Australian Government-funded program designed to lift the quality of life for older Australians experiencing loneliness or isolation. With a simple yet powerful mission, to create genuine and lasting connections, the program matches volunteer visitors with individuals receiving government-subsidised aged care services. Building on the longstanding legacy of the Community Visitors Scheme (CVS) which ran for 30 years, in 2019 the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety recommended the expansion of this program and proposed to change its name to Aged Care Volunteer Visitors Scheme. Funding was increased by \$34 million in 2021-22 Mid-Year Economic Fiscal Outlook, bringing total funding provided to \$113 million over 34 years. Through these investments, the ACVVS ensures that volunteer visitors can forge meaningful connections with aging community members.

Central to its success, ACVVS is delivered through the collaborative efforts of more than 130 community organisations nationwide. By addressing the needs of diverse groups, such as those from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, the LGBTIQ+ community, First Nations, and Veterans, the program ensures that the most vulnerable are not left behind. In the 2023–24 period alone, a remarkable 12,179 volunteers completed an astounding 303,329 visits, underscoring the program's deep impact on community connectivity.

In 2023, the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing commissioned a multidisciplinary team from Monash University's Faculties of Arts, Medicine, Nursing, and Health Sciences to evaluate ACVVS, drawing upon expertise in sociology, anthropology, Indigenous studies, epidemiology, psychology and physiotherapy. The team assessed the effectiveness of the ACVVS in reducing social isolation and loneliness and boosting the quality of life for both care recipients and volunteers.

[Professor Narelle Warren](#), the ACVVS Evaluation Project Lead explained that the three-year long evaluation project “leverages lived experience and co-design methodologies from the humanities and social sciences, providing a vital perspective that complements biomedical research. This approach offers deep insights into the social, cultural and ethical dimensions of health, addressing issues such as health inequalities, patient experiences and the impact of social determinants on health outcomes”.

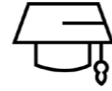
This national, mixed-methods study is engaging policy makers, service providers, end-users, and volunteers across each state and territory, with multiple data collection points in each. With over 1,000 participants contributing their insights, the evaluation features over 644 survey respondents, 144 in-depth interviews with ACVVS recipients, 18 focus groups with volunteer visitors and 14 focus groups with service providers. Each voice served to enrich understanding of the program's transformative impact.

Emphasising the importance of the collaborative effort that transforms raw data into a compelling narrative of social change, the **ACCVS Project Manager and Lead Chief Investigator, [Dr Kate Burns](#)** points out that the “partnerships in this project have been essential to the success. Working with the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing, all the community organisations and service providers across the country have enriched the project and provided a robust evidence base”.

The holistic inquiry merges rigorous analysis with the nuance of lived experience. The evaluation quantifies ACVVS's impact on older people's broader health and wellbeing and on volunteers' quality of life. From a policymaking perspective, it assesses the cost-effectiveness of the intervention on health, mental health and aged care service usage, while clarifying ACVVS's role within the wider care system. The findings will guide improvements that better meet the needs of older people, ensure a sustainable volunteer base and enable targeted program delivery across residential, home and rural settings. Ultimately, this evidence base will offer valuable insights for similar initiatives nationally and internationally.

Monash University seeks to achieve impact through research. The partnership with the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing has provided such an opportunity. We extend our sincere thanks to [Kirsten Turner](#) and Katrina Pears for contributing their valuable time and insights during the recent [video interview](#). Their perspectives have been instrumental in shaping our understanding of the ACVVS and highlighting its profound impact on aged care and community well-being. This collaboration strengthens the evidence base for future improvements and reinforces the power of partnership in driving meaningful change.

# NEWS FROM ARTS GRADUATE RESEARCH



## CONGRATULATIONS TO DOCTORS OF PHILOSOPHY (NOV 2024 - MAY 2025)

### Dr Mashrur Imtiaz

IITB-Monash, Thesis: [The Documentation of Kol Language in Bangladesh](#)  
Supervisors: Professor Alice Gaby and Associate Professor Vijayanthi Sarma (IITB)

### Dr Nina Kah

LLCL, Thesis: [Memory and Loss in Contemporary German Women's Writing](#)  
Supervisors: Associate Professor Christiane Weller and Associate Professor Axel Fliethmann

### Dr Kanji Kitamura

LLCL, Thesis: [Toward A Theory Of Cultural Translatability: A Study of Business Communication between English and Japanese](#)  
Supervisors: Associate Professor Jeremy Breden and Dr Nadine Normand-Marconnet

### Dr Susan Whitbread

LLCL, Thesis: [A Corpus-Based Discourse Analysis of the Genetic Modification \(GM\) Controversy in Food and Agriculture](#)  
Supervisors: Associate Professor Louisa Willoughby and Dr Satoshi Nambu

### Dr Melanie Ashe

MFJ, Thesis: [Practicing Terra Firma: Extraction, Screen Production and Culture in Far West New South Wales](#)  
Supervisors: Professor Belinda Smaill and Dr Maura Edmond

### Dr Kate Clark

MFJ, Thesis: [Reframing the 'frameless': A feminist reimagining of embodiment in VR](#)  
Supervisors: Dr Daniel Black and Professor Mark Andrejevic

### Dr Natasha Dimitrovska

MFJ, Thesis: ['Woman is not wolf to woman': Solidarity, struggles and contradictions in digital feminist activism in the Balkans](#)  
Supervisors: Dr Akane Kanai and Associate Professor Zala Volcic

### Dr Thomas Moran

MFJ, Thesis: [The Digital Death of Cinema](#)  
Supervisors: Dr Paul Atkinson and Professor Olivia Khoo

### Dr Eylem Kim

MFJ, Thesis: [Apple iPhone's Meta-Capital: Exploring how young people use the iPhone to leverage and negotiate forms of capital through everyday practices and predispositions](#)  
Supervisors: Associate Professor Zala Volcic, Dr Robbie Fordyce and Dr Emily Van Der Nagel

### Dr Jaekyung Roh

MFJ, Thesis: [Isolation and Struggle to Belong: Older Korean-Australian Migrants' Managing Emotions through Homeland Digital Media](#)  
Supervisors: Professor Gil Soo Han and Dr Akane Kanai

### Dr Inna Kabrovski

SZCSOMP, Thesis: [Patterns of Culture: A Re-examination of Ornamentation in J. S. Bach's Italian Concerto](#)  
Supervisors: Professor Margaret Barrett and Dr Anna McMichael

### Dr Michael Kellett

SZCSOMP, Thesis: [The Dialectics of Authorship and Interpretation: Composing for Improvisation and Improvising for Composition](#)  
Supervisors: Associate Professor Robert Burke and Dr Paul Williamson

### Dr Pauline Hastings

SoPHIS, Thesis: [Behind the Seams: A social, cultural and economic history of clothing manufacturing in Victoria, Australia, c. 1945-1990](#)  
Supervisors: Dr Kate Murphy, Associate Professor Seamus O'Hanlon and Associate Professor Lionel Frost

### Dr Andris Raivars

SoPHIS, Thesis: [Told as Known Fact: A Study of David Lewis's 'Truth In Fiction'](#)  
Supervisors: Professor Graham Oppy and Dr Michelle Liu

### Dr Craig Stanbury

SoPHIS, Thesis: [The Prospective Parent's Dilemma: What Overpopulation Entails for Individuals](#)  
Supervisors: Professor Justin Oakley and Dr Suzanne Killmister

### Dr Ane Van Der Walt

SoPHIS, Thesis: [The Narrative Atlas: creativity and multivocality in Indigenous archaeology](#)  
Supervisors: Professor Ian McNiven and Dr Vincent Dziekan

### Dr Nadeeka Arambewela-Colley

SoSS, Thesis: [Negotiating Belonging: An Ethnographic Study of Tamil Asylum Seekers and Refugees in Australia](#)  
Supervisors: Professor Andrea Whittaker, Dr Sara Niner and Dr Charishma Ratnam

### Dr Andina Dian Dwi Fatma

SoSS, Thesis: [Islamic Web Series and Women's Piety in Muslim Indonesia](#)  
Supervisors: Professor Julian Millie and Dr Kate Fitch

### Dr Lewis Johnstone

SoSS, Thesis: [Temporal orientations of Young-onset Parkinson's disease: Exploring relationships, personhood and narratives](#)  
Supervisors: Professor Narelle Warren and Professor Mark Davis

### Dr Benjamin Lewis

SoSS, Thesis: [Exploring Inter-group Partnering among the Australian Jewish population](#)  
Supervisors: Professor Dharmalingam Arunachalam, Professor Helen Forbes-Mewett and Professor Andrew Markus

### Dr Chamila Weerathunghe Arachchige

SoSS, Thesis: [Transformative policy mixes and enabling conditions: engaging SMEs in urban sustainability transitions](#)  
Supervisors: Professor Megan Farrelly, Associate Professor Wendy Stubbs and Dr Benjamin Thompson

## CONGRATULATIONS TO DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (THEATRE PERFORMANCE) GRADUATE (NOV 2024 - MAY 2025)

### Dr Blayne Welsh

LLCL, Thesis: [The Ancestor: Knowing, Being and Doing through verbatim performance](#)  
Supervisors: Professor Stacy Holman-Jones, Associate Professor John Bradley and Associate Professor Joe Salvatore

## CONGRATULATIONS TO DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (MUSIC PERFORMANCE) GRADUATE (NOV 2024 - MAY 2025)

### Dr Jonathan Zion

SZCSOMP, Thesis: [Organic interplay in a jazz trio](#)  
Supervisors: Associate Professor Robert Burke and Dr David Bright

## CONGRATULATIONS TO MASTER OF ARTS GRADUATES (NOV 2024 - MAY 2025)

### Erin Casey

SoPHIS, Thesis: [Object and Text: \(Con\)textualising Urban Amarna](#)  
Supervisors: Dr Anna Stevens and Dr Andrew Connor

### Simon Merry

SoPHIS, Thesis: [Australia's 'Small War': colonial personnel in China, 1900-1901](#)  
Supervisors: Associate Professor Robert Burke and Dr Paul Williamson

### Ricardo Enrique Rojas Campos

MFJ, Thesis: [Walter Benjamin's Images of Revolution in "On the Concept of History"](#)  
Supervisors: Professor Alison Ross, Associate Professor Axel Fliethmann and Dr Sandra Field

## CONGRATULATIONS TO MASTER OF ARTS GRADUATE (RESEARCH TRAINING) (NOV 2024 - MAY 2025)

### Darren Disney

SoSS, Thesis: [The Supply of Public Sector Policy Capacity to Parliamentary Oppositions: The Australian Case in Comparative Perspective](#)  
Supervisors: Associate Professor Zareh Ghazarian and Professor Michael Mintrom.

## SPOTLIGHT ON PHD RESEARCH INTERNSHIPS

### Interview with Serena Ford, PhD candidate (SoSS)

At the Faculty of Arts, we empower our PhD candidates to break new ground by applying their research expertise to short-term, real-world projects crafted by industry leaders, from enterprise and influential not-for-profits to local and state government departments.

For this edition of the Arts Research Update, we are excited to share an extract of the interview with Serena Ford, a brilliant PhD candidate from the School of Social Sciences whose work explores the challenges of illiberal states and advances the Women, Peace and Security Agenda. Serena is currently immersed in a research internship with the [Asia Foundation](#), an international non-profit dedicated to enhancing governance, boosting economies, upskilling the workforce, promoting peace, countering human trafficking, and strengthening resource management. Her journey embodies the transformative impact of merging academic rigor with practical, actionable insights and offers a glimpse of opportunities that a PhD Internship can provide.

**Q: What motivated you to take on an Internship during your PhD?**

My PhD research is focused on the spread of the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda in Southeast Asia. The WPS agenda is a global policy framework that recognises the disproportionate impact of conflict on women and girls, and the critical role women play in preventing conflict, building peace, and promoting security. Not many people have studied WPS in Southeast Asia outside of Monash University, so in starting my PhD I was curious to see what programming was currently taking place in the region for WPS.

I came across the Asia Foundation by chance. They have a program called Amplify: Amplifying women's peace actions in ASEAN, which is a five-year WPS regional initiative addressing the issue of women being differentially impacted by armed conflicts and human security threats in Southeast Asia. I approached them to explore the possibility of an internship and to learn more about the WPS landscape in Southeast Asia through the lens of an important regional player such as the Asia Foundation. By connecting with an organisation working on my area of research, I have been able to access a huge network of women's rights groups and policymakers working on WPS in Southeast Asia, so it is perfect timing for my PhD.

**Q: Can you briefly describe what is required of you in the internship?**

I am doing the internship full time over three months, during which time I have been the lead researcher for a Political Economy analysis of WPS in three countries in the region and ASEAN as a regional block. In this role I've analysed the political realities of programming an agenda such as WPS in the region. I have also had opportunities to work on short communications pieces about women peacemakers in the region.



**Q: How is this internship benefiting your PhD studies?**

This internship has been instrumental in both networking and refining my research. Through The Asia Foundation's network, I've gained access to women's organizations across Southeast Asia—connections that would have been difficult to establish otherwise. After completing the internship, I will be better placed to select fieldwork across the region. Conducting a Political Economy analysis has deepened my understanding of power dynamics, historical conflicts, and ideological constraints that shape government responses to WPS policy. These insights are directly informing my study.

**Q: How is this internship shaping your vision for your career after completing the PhD?**

Before doing this research internship, I believe that my research skills are best placed within universities and thought I would probably only apply for academic jobs. After doing research in the context of The Asia Foundation, I have realised that there are many pathways open to me and that many organisations value the research abilities that I can contribute, particularly in my field of research. I will now consider different career pathways for post-PhD.

## WHY WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT WATER?

### Professor Megan Farrelly's Inaugural Lecture

In May 2025 the Faculty of Arts was honoured to host [Professor Megan A. Farrelly's inaugural lecture](#) as Professor of Environmental Geography at Monash University. This landmark event, titled “**Why We Need to Talk About Water: Insights from Environmental Governance Research**,” offered a powerful and thought-provoking reflection on two decades of pioneering research into urban water governance in Australia.

Professor Farrelly reminded us that water is far more than a life-giving resource, it is deeply political, fiercely contested, and, at times, even destructive. Drawing on her extensive research, she explored how place, interdisciplinary collaboration, and industry partnerships can shape more climate-resilient futures, urging us to rethink how we govern our water systems across scales and jurisdictions.

“Urban water management, in Australia and beyond, faces enormous pressures, from soaring demand across residential, commercial, and agricultural sectors to the urgent need for decarbonisation and climate adaptation,” Professor Farrelly explained. “Addressing urban water management challenges calls for bold innovation, embracing both policy and technology to unlock alternative water sources. But beyond solutions, it demands a fundamental shift in how we plan, govern, and manage our water systems across scales and jurisdictions, ensuring resilience for the future”

In a country where the presence and absence of water defines landscapes, livelihoods, and legacies, Professor Farrelly's insights have never been more vital. We are proud to celebrate this milestone and look forward to seeing how her research continues to shape sustainable water governance in the years ahead.

“Addressing urban water management challenges calls for bold innovation, embracing both policy and technology to unlock alternative water sources. But beyond solutions, it demands a fundamental shift in how we plan, govern, and manage our water systems across scales and jurisdictions, ensuring resilience for the future.”

**Professor Megan Farrelly**



# CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE: PRIZES AND EXTERNAL RECOGNITIONS

We are delighted to showcase a selection of the most recent external accolades and prizes that strengthen Monash Arts reputation and reflect our commitment to pioneering research. These national and international recognitions celebrate the impactful contributions of our work and its transformative impact on our communities, pushing the boundaries of innovation and discovery.

[Dr Chris Urwin](#) and [Dr Michelle Liu](#) have been awarded the prestigious Australian Academy of the Humanities [Rising Stars Humanities Early-Mid Career Researchers \(EMCR\)](#) prize for their outstanding contributions in Archaeology and Philosophy & History of Ideas, respectively. Honored as two of only ten nationally selected Rising Humanities EMCRs in 2024, their trailblazing work is paving the way for a vibrant future in the humanities and reshaping the landscape of their disciplines.

[Associate Professor Andrew David Jackson](#) received a [Republic of Korea Ministry of Education award](#) for his monograph *The Late and Post-Dictatorship Cinephilia Boom and Art Houses in South Korea* (Edinburgh University Press, 2024). The award is given annually to selected research outputs in the sciences, social sciences and humanities supported by and recognised as outstanding by the Republic of Korea Ministry of Education.

[Dr Jacinta Walsh](#) has been awarded the [Wilhelm, Martha, and Otto Rechnitz Memorial Fund program](#), managed by the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia, to support her on-country fieldwork in WA's Kimberley region. Her project, "Ceremonies of Kinship: Celebrating Kimberley Genealogies and Family Histories," promises to deepen our understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander societies, languages, and cultures.

- **Mercator Professorship**- Sir John Monash Distinguished [Professor Lynette Russell](#) AM has been appointed a Mercator Professor at the University of Potsdam, in recognition of Professor Russell's leadership and contribution to 'Settler Decolonisation in Country/On Land: Rehearsing Collaboration' (2025-28). The project examines 'how decolonization as an Indigenous-led effort can open up spaces for collaboration with non-Indigenous actors'.
- [Professor Libby Lester](#) has been inducted in the [2025 Tasmanian Honour Roll of Women](#), honouring the outstanding contribution her research has made to the State.
- [Associate Professor Brady Robards](#) was awarded the 2024 University of Bristol ['Next Generation' Visiting Fellowship Award](#).
- [Dr Sylvia Ang](#) was awarded the [2024 Raewyn Connell Prize](#) in recognition of her contributions to sociological theory and research, awarded by the Australian Sociological Association.
- [Dr Jim Hlavac](#) was awarded the [2024 Paul Sinclair Award](#) for Outstanding Contribution to the Australian Institute of Interpreters and Translators.
- [Dr Julian O'Shea](#) was awarded the **Digital Storytelling Award at the 2024 Community History Awards** for his video series, *Unknown Melbourne*. The annual ceremony is presented by Public Record Office Victoria in partnership with the Royal Historical Society of Victoria to celebrate individuals who are dedicated to telling local stories through creative and unique history projects.
- [2024 Annette Baier Prize](#) was presented to [Dr Michelle Liu](#) for her paper, *X-Phi and the challenge from ad hoc concepts*. This prize honours an outstanding philosophical paper or book chapter published by an Australasian woman during the previous calendar year.
- [Dr Megan McElhone](#) was the recipient of the [2024 Australian and New Zealand Society of Criminology \(ANZSOC\) Early Career Researcher Award](#), celebrating innovative and impactful research by emerging scholars and practitioners.
- [Dr Louise Devenish](#) has been awarded the prestigious [Australian Classical: NEXT Fellowship for 2024](#), awarded by the Australian Music Centre.

- [Dr Molly Johnston](#) was awarded the Fertility Society of Australia and New Zealand (FSANZ) best psychosocial paper award.
- [The Mary Bennett Prize](#) was awarded to [Dr Jessica O'Leary](#) *The Uprooting of Indigenous Women's Horticultural Practices in Brazil, 1500–1650* for this impressive ethnohistorical account of Indigenous women's practices in 16th century Brazil. Dr O'Leary also received the biennial [Philippa Maddern ECR Publication Prize](#) by the Australian and New Zealand Association for Medieval and Early Modern Studies.
- [Dr Charlotte Mackay](#) was awarded the [Australian Society for French Studies School Liaison and Community Outreach Grant 2024](#).

## GRADUATE RESEARCH PRIZES AND AWARDS

- **The 2024 Mollie Holman Award** was awarded to:  
**Dr Isabelle Laskaris**  
Thesis title: "As Life from the Dead": New England Slave Resistance, 1650-1800 (SoPHIS)
- **2024 Vice-Chancellor's Commendation for Thesis Excellence** was awarded to:  
**Dr Stephanie Slack (PhD)**  
Thesis title: Digital mental health technologies for diagnostics and treatment: Neglected ethical issues (SoPHIS)
- **Saskia Moorrees (Research Masters)**  
Thesis title: Manipulative actions and meaning in Greco-Roman ritual analogy (SoPHIS)

“ After each dark night, there is a bright morning. The Taliban cannot silence music forever. We will return to Afghanistan, bringing back music, beauty, and hope.

Dr Ahmad Sarmast

## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT - 'NOTES OF PROTEST'

We are very proud of our 92,379 Monash Arts alumni from across 105 countries. Our global community includes The Hon Sharman Stone AM (PhD), Dr Adam Bandt MP (PhD), Dr Waleed Aly (PhD), Dr Steve Vizard (PhD), The Hon Chief Justice Anne Ferguson (Arts/LawsHons), Deborah Glass OBE (Arts/LawsHons), Dr Naomi Milgrom AO (BA), The Hon Daniel Andrews AC (BA), The Hon Dan Tehan MP (MFAT), Brendon Gale (MA/LawsHons), Sarah Abo (BA), H.E. Mr Arthur Spyrou (MFAT), H.E. Saleumxay Kommasith (MA), and thousands of other influential alumni impacting communities, nations and the world for good.

### Meet Dr Ahmad Sarmast

Dr Sarmast, the visionary Founder and Director of the Afghanistan National Institute of Music (ANIM), embodies the powerful intersection of academic rigor and cultural preservation. A proud Monash Alumni with a PhD in Musicology & Ethnomusicology (2005), he has dedicated his career to safeguarding Afghanistan's rich musical heritage, even at great personal risk. In March 2025, we had the privilege of delving into his extraordinary journey, where he recounted the challenges and triumphs of championing both musical preservation and the educational rights of the Afghan people. The following extract from our interview offers an inspiring glimpse into his remarkable story.

#### From Afghanistan to Portugal: Dr. Ahmad Sarmast's Journey of Musical Resilience

For Dr Sarmast music is more than an art form – it is a lifeline for a culture under siege. As the first Afghan to receive a PhD in music, earned at Monash University, Dr Sarmast has dedicated his career to preserving Afghanistan's musical heritage, even in the face of immense adversity. His academic journey at Monash played a pivotal role in shaping ANIM's vision, helping him overcome formidable challenges, and laying the foundation for a school that would become a symbol of hope and resistance.

#### Building a Vision for ANIM

Dr Sarmast's PhD research provided the intellectual framework for ANIM, equipping him with the expertise to develop its curriculum and navigate the complexities of music education in a society recovering from the Taliban's initial rule. His credentials granted him credibility in Afghanistan, where music was still viewed with suspicion. Establishing ANIM post-Taliban was an uphill battle – government and parliamentary resistance, minimal funding, and deep-rooted stigma made it a daunting task. Yet, through perseverance, ANIM flourished as a sanctuary for young musicians, nurturing talent and fostering cultural revival.

#### A School in Exile: The Challenges of Relocation

The return of the Taliban in 2021 forced Dr Sarmast into a new struggle – saving ANIM's students. With the help of human rights advocates and musicians, he orchestrated the evacuation of 273 young musicians to Portugal, the only country to fully support their asylum. Music had been entirely banned in Afghanistan, leaving these students with no future in their homeland. However, resettling in Portugal came with its own obstacles. Laws preventing minors from living in large groups threatened to separate students – a



move Dr. Sarmast fought against to maintain their unity. Education posed another hurdle – many students, having endured disruptions due to COVID-19, faced bureaucratic challenges in re-enrolling. With the support of the Portuguese government, they have since continued their studies, ensuring that Afghan music survives beyond Afghanistan's borders.

#### ANIM's Global Voice in Cultural Diplomacy

Since its exile, ANIM has amplified its role in international cultural diplomacy. The institute has resumed its global performances, with concerts in Switzerland, Germany, Spain, Tajikistan, the UK and USA. ANIM's return to Carnegie Hall was a defining moment, showcasing the resilience of Afghan music. Beyond music, these performances serve as a powerful protest against the Taliban's cultural oppression, drawing global attention to the crisis in Afghanistan. In December 2024 NBC News released [Notes of Protest: Afghanistan's Orchestra in Exile](#), a documentary about Dr Sarmast and ANIM's fight to preserve Afghan music and culture in exile.

#### A Future for Afghan Music

Dr Sarmast remains committed to safeguarding Afghanistan's musical heritage. ANIM is now a central hub for research and preservation, collaborating with global institutions to archive Afghan music. With young musicians training abroad, he envisions a future where Afghan music will return stronger, even if it must currently exist in exile.

The Afghanistan National Institute of Music continues its work through global support. Visit [ANIM's website](#) to learn how you can contribute to its mission.

# SOUTHEAST ASIA RESEARCH CENTRE FOR DIGITAL TECH & SOCIETY

## Launch of the Southeast Asia Research Centre for Digital Tech & Society (SEADS)

How do we keep our region's digital spaces vibrant yet safe? That question sat at the heart of the recent launch of SEADS at Monash University Malaysia. The ceremony was officiated by the Honourable YB Hannah Yeoh, Minister of Youth and Sports, signalling Malaysia's resolve to protect citizens, especially young people amid rapid technological change.

Professor Emeritus Dato' Dr Adeeba Kamarulzaman, President and Pro Vice-Chancellor of Monash University Malaysia, set out the Centre's purpose in no-nonsense terms: technology must "work for the people, not against them". She outlined SEADS' plan to collaborate with business, policymakers and local communities so that digital transformation stays ethical, inclusive and genuinely beneficial.

[Associate Professor Emma Baulch](#), Director of SEADS and Deputy Head of School (Research) in the School of Arts and Social Sciences, expanded on the research brief:

"Online spaces are where young people live – relax, socialise, shop, get informed, and sell things.

Given the rapid pace of change in these environments, more fundamental research is needed to take stock of how changes affect us, for better or for worse. A university research centre is a place where we can undertake the work of deep reflection and reimagining, appraising and rethinking the present and the future." She added, "But we need to partner with civil society, industry and policy makers to make sure our research informs public conversations, attitudes and practices, as well as policies."

That partnership ethos took centre stage during a fireside chat titled "Creating a Safe Internet for Young Malaysians", featuring YB Hannah Yeoh in conversation with Professor Meera Sivasothy. The discussion probed the regulatory gaps that allow online harms to flourish, particularly gender-based violence and misinformation. As YB Hannah Yeoh emphasised, "Greater coordination and data sharing within government agencies are essential to making better-informed decisions regarding online harm." Both speakers urged comprehensive research, guided by the Southeast Asia Digital Society framework, to map the full scale of online risks before new legislation or interventions are introduced.



Professor Meera Sivasothy and Honourable YB Hannah Yeoh



Professor Emeritus Dato' Dr Adeeba Kamarulzaman, Honourable YB Hannah Yeoh and Associate Professor Emma Baulch at the launch ceremony of SEADS

## About SEADS

Based at Monash University Malaysia, [SEADS](#) undertakes scholarly research that advances understanding of digital tech and societies in Southeast Asia. The centre serves as a platform that conjoins academic research with civil society, governments and corporations in ongoing dialogue, exchanges, and collaborations to explore alternatives, and inform the public. The work of the Centre is shaped by the vision of a society where digitally-mediated political, economic and social exchanges are equitable, transparent, inclusive and accountable, and its mission to:

- **Research:** We advance scholarship through critical examination of the relationships between digital technologies and human societies in Southeast Asia using humanities and social science approaches
- **Reform:** We will work with corporations, policy institutions and community organisations to bring about reform towards more ethical and inclusive digital futures in Southeast Asia
- **Engage:** We engage the public on important developments relating to our thematic foci and their implications for communities and citizens in Southeast Asia
- **Educate:** We develop pedagogical resources aligned to our thematic foci, and serve as a centre for research training in the Southeast Asia region

SEADS is a convening hub where researchers, community advocates, industry innovators and government officials can co-design evidence-based solutions for safer, fairer digital futures.

As Malaysia and Southeast Asia more broadly negotiate an era of relentless connectivity, SEADS is poised to supply the data, dialogue and direction required to protect every user in our increasingly networked world.

Current projects include:

- **Platform Ecosystems & Transactional Cultures** in Asia charts how e-commerce and e-payment "super-apps" are reshaping daily life in eight Asian countries, then feeds the insights to worker collectives, consumer advocates and policymakers so the next growth wave is fair, transparent and locally responsive.
- **Digital Technologies as Actors of Public Diplomacy** investigates how Southeast Asian platform networks can help South Korea and its neighbours collaborate on equal footing – turning cross-border tech ties into engines of cultural exchange, market access and shared digital standards.
- **Building Policy Networks for Regulating Digital Tech in Southeast Asia** puts civil-society groups, developers, regulators and ASEAN officials around the same table to co-design privacy, transparency and accountability-centred policy templates ready for rollout across the region.
- **Regulating Sexual Violence Against Women in the Metaverse** partners with designers, lawmakers and women's organisations to draft safety guidelines and in-platform safeguards, ensuring virtual and augmented reality spaces are inclusive and free from gender-based abuse before they scale any further.

# NEW APPOINTEES



## DR BHIAMIE WILLIAMSON

[Dr Bhiemie Williamson](#) is a Euahlayi man from north-west New South Wales with familial ties to north-west Queensland. Bhiemie's PhD from the Australian National University investigated the changing nature of Indigenous men and masculinities in Australia. He has a Master's qualification in Indigenous Governance from the University of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. Bhiemie also holds graduate certificates in Indigenous Governance from the Native Nations Institute at the University of Arizona and Indigenous Trauma and Recovery Practice from the University of Wollongong. He completed his Undergraduate in environmental management and political science also from the Australian National University. Bhiemie is a Senior Lecturer at Monash University.

He leads the National Indigenous Disaster Resilience research program, the only Indigenous-led, nationally focussed research program focussed on quantifying the experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities before, during and after major environmental disasters.

Bhiemie holds a range of positions including as Chair of Country Needs People, an environmental charity that advocates and provides practical support for Indigenous ranger groups. He is a Director of the Australian Indigenous Governance Institute, an Indigenous charity that supports Indigenous communities to establish and maintain effective community governing groups and processes. He is also an Executive Member of Maiam nayri Wingara, the leading Indigenous group exploring and advocating for Indigenous Data Sovereignty through governance.

### National Indigenous Disaster Resilience (NIDR)

[NIDR](#) is a research program in the School of Sciences, Monash Arts Faculty. It is dedicated to investigating and quantifying the impacts of major disaster events on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

NIDR is grounded in an understanding that climate change is producing more frequent and severe disasters. Despite the growing recognition that major disasters disproportionately impact Indigenous peoples, there is little evidence and knowledge about how these events impact Indigenous peoples in ways that are different to other Australians. There is also little information or knowledge on Indigenous priorities during major disaster events.

NIDR aims to address these gaps, while challenging dominant discourses that focus on vulnerabilities alone, and centre First Nations knowledge and leadership in disaster resilience and recovery.

### NIDR Vision

Safe, strong and sustainable Indigenous peoples and communities.

### Purpose

Enhance Resilience in the face of increasing disaster events.

### Community Engagement

NIDR is working directly with Indigenous leaders and communities across Australia to:

- create new knowledge through research
- advocate for the needs of Indigenous peoples and communities before, during and after disasters
- bring Indigenous, emergency management and disaster resilience leaders together
- facilitate Indigenous leadership.

NIDR is championing innovative stakeholder engagements that bring together community leaders, Indigenous organisations, and policy makers to ensure Indigenous voices remain at the heart of dynamic disaster resilience strategies. This collaborative approach is reshaping how communities prepare for natural hazards and underscores the transformative power of inclusive, community-driven solutions.

### NIDR Policy Roundtables

NIDR is delivering a Policy Roundtable on Indigenous disaster resilience in each state and territory between 2024-2026, bringing together key Indigenous organisations, community leaders, emergency management and disaster resilience agencies.

These events aim to share information on disaster arrangements, hear about Indigenous peoples experiences of disasters, identify priority reform areas and identify points of collaboration between Indigenous and non-Indigenous disaster resilience stakeholders. Policy Roundtables for 2024 were held in South Australia and Queensland.

### NIDR Gathering 2024

The NIDR Gathering 2024 took place on Bundjalung Country in Lismore from 24-26 September, hosting over 280 representatives from across Australia and abroad to celebrate Indigenous leadership and excellence in emergency management, community recovery, disaster resilience and Caring for Country.

Delegates from disaster resilience and emergency management sectors, government, researchers, non government organisations, Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations, Indigenous ranger groups, Native Title groups, and other land and water management organisations came together to build awareness, share knowledge, connect, and support an Indigenous-led conversation on disaster resilience.

Across three days, delegates joined keynote addresses, panel discussions, workshops and participated in on-Country activities. This was the largest gathering of Indigenous peoples and organisations who have played a key role in responding to major hazard events, and provided a valuable opportunity for delegates to hear from communities who have been affected by disasters in the recent past. It was important that NIDR brought this national event to Lismore, a community still in a state of repair, two and a half years after the catastrophic flooding events.

### Planning Evacuations with Indigenous Communities Handbook

Developed by NIDR as part of the Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience's Australian Disaster Resilience Handbook Collection, this [handbook](#) aims to facilitate culturally safe and effective evacuations for Indigenous communities at risk from natural hazards.

It offers essential guidance for engaging in evacuation planning and implementation processes involving discrete Indigenous communities, as well as areas with significant Indigenous populations in remote, rural, regional, and urban settings.

“ The Policy Roundtable is a unique opportunity for Aboriginal communities, organisations, and leaders to come together with emergency services and talk about the experiences of communities and identify Aboriginal priorities in emergency management and disaster resilience.

[Dr Bhiemie Williamson](#)  
NIDR Program Lead



#### PROFESSOR PETER ADEY

[Peter Adey](#) is Professor of Human Geography and convenor of Human Geography, Anthropology and Development Studies in SoSS, having recently arrived at Monash after 13 years at Royal Holloway University of London. He had previously worked in Australia during several visiting fellowships at the University of Melbourne, and collaborated with colleagues in MSDI and the Emerging Technologies Lab on just transitions to decarbonisation on a British Academy project.

Peter brings interdisciplinary experience and leadership to the study of mobilities - the cultures, geopolitics of security, and aesthetics, of how we move - through three interconnecting research areas: Air-travel, infrastructures and emerging technologies; The climate emergency, especially just transitions to decarbonisation and low-carbon mobility futures; and A climate of emergency, examining the emotions, affects and mobilities of emergency anticipation and its governance. His work on emergencies, mobilities and justice have recently culminated in three linked books: *Evacuation: the politics and aesthetics of moving in emergency* with Duke University Press (2024); the coedited special issue and edited book *Pandemic (Im)mobilities* (2025), and the short trilingual book *Connections: Arts and Humanities for Just Mobility Futures* (2025) from a collaboration with mobilities centres in the UK, Italy and South Korea.

Peter has supported the development and consolidation of mobilities research in global partnerships and research centres, such as in South Korea where he is a co-investigator of the Academy of Mobility Humanities at Konkuk University. Peter is also working on a collaboration with Polish and Lithuanian researchers examining civil protection and migration governance in Eastern Europe following Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Peter's research has been featured in a BBC series, newspapers and magazines, and guided policy makers in the UK. He is currently developing a new program of work concerning the entanglement of mobility, geopolitics and climate change in several rapidly evolving technologies including batteries, electric vehicles and semi-conductor chips.



#### DR BENJAMIN MOFFITT

[Dr Benjamin Moffitt](#) is Senior Lecturer in Politics & International Relations in SoSS. His research focuses on contemporary challenges to liberal democracy, and he is one of the world's foremost international experts on populism. He also works on issues related to radical and reactionary politics, cultural politics, visual politics, and changing forms of political representation. His work spans comparative politics, political theory, and political communication. As such Ben is keen to collaborate with colleagues at Monash beyond politics, including in media and communications, journalism, sociology, and IT. He is writing a book entitled *The Visual Politics of Populism* for Oxford University Press.

Methodologically, Ben uses mixed-methods. Qualitatively, he draws on discourse analysis, interpretivist visual content analysis, and comparative case studies. Quantitatively, he has experience in survey experiments, measuring political attitudes, and the computer-assisted analysis of large visual corpora, drawing on natural science methods.

With a global research focus and postdoctoral training in Sweden, Ben has collaborative networks across Australia, Sweden, Germany, Italy, Norway, Belgium, Denmark, Greece, Canada, and the UK.

Ben's work has had a significant impact on public debates and policy in Australia, the UK, and Europe. His research has been cited in speeches by the Australian Race Discrimination Commissioner, recommended in UK House of Lords Research Library Briefings, and referenced in the Australian Senate Inquiry into 'Nationhood, National Identity and Democracy'. His work has also been used by the NGO Transparency International.

Ben maintains a strong media presence, with his research appearing in outlets including *The Economist*, *The Washington Post*, *The Huffington Post*, *Bloomberg News*, *BBC News*, and *The Guardian*. In 2018, he was named one of the ABC's Top five researchers in the humanities and social sciences in Australia.



#### DR KARI DAHLGREN

[Kari Dahlgren](#) is an environmental and economic anthropologist whose research focuses on the social dimensions of the energy transition, extractive industries, and industrial decarbonisation. She has recently joined the Arts Faculty as a lecturer in anthropology, and DECRA fellow.

Her DECRA project, *Hydrogen Hub Futures*, examines how emerging hydrogen industries are reshaping industrial regions and energy imaginaries in Australia. Kari is a Chief Investigator on an ARC Discovery Project, which investigates the rise of carbon circularity as a guiding principle in environmental governance, based in Middle Arm, Northern Territory and is a CI on the *Scenarios for Future Living* project (part of the RACE for 2030 CRC). This project explores how households and practices are changing in relation to energy technologies, and everyday life, working with industry partners to inform energy forecasting.

Kari's methodological approach combines ethnography with participatory futures methods to explore how people and industries engage with uncertainty and socio-technical change.

Her work aims to support the development of more equitable and socially just approaches to decarbonisation.



#### DR JESSICA KIRK

[Dr Jessica Kirk](#) is an ARC DECRA Fellow and Lecturer in Politics and International Relations in the School of Social Sciences. Her research interests include global health politics, critical security studies, and the role of knowledge and knowledge production in both.

She is currently a Chief Investigator on an ARC Discovery Project 'The Politics of Expertise during COVID-19', which examines how public health expertise was used during the COVID-19 pandemic. This research details how expertise was produced and used during the crisis, how different governments managed expertise, and how this can be improved in the future. She has recently received an ARC DECRA Fellowship, with her project 'Improving the global management of health misinformation' commencing in July 2025. This research will examine how different global-level initiatives address the problem of health misinformation and disinformation, including areas of success and failure. Expected findings will identify what impacts on initiative effectiveness, where common challenges lie, and what best practice in addressing misinformation and disinformation looks like, as well as providing insights for the International Relations discipline into the complex and evolving nature of contemporary global health governance.

Dr Kirk is an executive member of the International Studies Association's Global Health Studies section.



#### DR CHRIS DOLLAR

[Christopher W. Dollar's](#) research expertise includes quantitative methodologies, criminal justice policy, public policy, time series evaluation, justice and social issues, rehabilitation, reintegration, application of law, social science research methods, and comparative criminology. He also has research interests that intersect with criminal justice application, such as economics, human geography, public policy, law, and gender studies. His research seeks to expand the use of time-series analysis in public policy applications so that the outcomes of collective decision making can be better understood by policymakers, academics, and the wider public. In particular, Dr Dollar has improved upon previous time series designs by integrating multiple event time series analysis techniques in a regression space; which can be applied across any data source that is over time and experiences events or interruptions. Additionally, among Chris's statistical competencies he trained in both panel analysis and structural equation modelling. He has developed partnerships in the Pacific Northwest of the United States with academic researchers, criminal justice agencies, state legislatures, and not-for-profit organisations.



#### DR ANTONIA SETTLE

[Dr Antonia Settle](#) is a political economist and Lecturer at Monash University in the Politics and International Relations division. She is also AHURI Centre Director at Monash. Antonia joins Monash from Melbourne University, where she held a McKenzie Postdoctoral Fellowship at the Melbourne Institute of Economic and Social Research.

Antonia's research focuses on households and the distribution of risk between households, the state and markets. Following her PhD research on household risk and reforms in money and central banking, Antonia's research has explored household risk in relation to financial risk in superannuation, climate risk and housing and home insurance. Her research is published in academic journals such as *New Political Economy*, the *Review of International Political Economy* and *Ecological Economics* and she has a book published by Cambridge University Press.

Antonia has a PhD from the University of Sydney's Political Economy department, a Graduate Certificate in Economics at La Trobe University and a Bachelor of Arts in International Studies from RMIT University.



#### DR MEGAN MCELHONE

[Dr Megan McElhone](#) researches how police practices reflect and sustain race, and the effects for those who are policed. Megan came to this area of research owing to collective and multigenerational experiences of police power, racism, and place, as a person of Lebanese heritage from south-western Sydney. Much of her work examines institutionalised anti-Arab racism and Islamophobia on the part of Australian police forces.

Prior to joining Monash, Megan was Lecturer in Criminology at Birkbeck, University of London during which time she researched genealogies of police institutional racism, examining the effects of austerity upon policing, and assessing the practicalities of calls to defund the police. She maintains strong relationships with UK-based academics and charities campaigning against racially disproportionate policing. Methodologically, Megan is committed to gathering data from sources within and beyond police forces. This includes seeking out the views of those people who are subject to policing, as well as lawyers, community and youth workers, and service providers, who develop patterned and systemic views of police practice. She is currently establishing an approach for spatialising racial disproportionality in policing. This approach involves counter-mapping data regarding the police's use of stop and search and arrest powers. Megan is keen to collaborate with others who take an interest in institutional power, race, space and place, and security.

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