



MONASH
University

ARTS
RESEARCH
UPDATE

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INTRODUCTION

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ARC	Australian Research Council
DFAT	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
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 International Studies
SZCSOMP	Sir Zelman Cowen School of Music and

PROJECT ICONS



First Nations involvement



International partnerships



Industry and/or community partnerships



PhD student involvement

FOREWORD



Welcome to the inaugural edition of the Arts Research Update, a biannual communication and celebration of research activity in the Faculty of Arts for the period January to June 2024.

This Research Update is a new initiative. Its purpose is to provide a snapshot of research activities across the Faculty, including projects, Higher Degree Research student news and completions, publications, new research staff, and updates from key alumni. No update can be truly comprehensive for a Faculty of our size, but we nonetheless hope it conveys the quality and breadth of our research activities across the six Schools. Your feedback on how the newsletter can be improved and/or presented in the future is welcome.

A standout achievement in the recent period: we are the only Faculty at Monash University to be successful at all three levels of the Australian Research Council (ARC) Industry Fellowships Program (IFP) 2024. Congratulations to our new ARC Early Career Industry Fellow, Dr Molly Johnston, and ARC Mid-Career Industry Fellow, Associate Professor Louisa Willougby. A special congratulations goes to our new ARC Industry Laureate Fellow, Professor Bruno David, on this career-defining achievement. Success in each of these schemes demonstrates the quality and impact of HASS research and researchers in Monash Arts, as well as our strong linkages with external research partners.

Another feature of this period is the finalisation of 'New Horizons, Enduring Quality: Faculty of Arts Research Strategy, 2024–2028'. The objective of the new Strategy is to support sustained excellence in research quality, performance and impact in the Faculty over the next five years. I encourage everyone to read and engage with the Strategy as our Schools commence implementation plans in response to it.

Thank you to all the academic and research professional staff who make the Arts Research Update possible. It is a privilege to acknowledge the hard work, insights and achievements presented within it.

[Professor Brett Hutchins](#)
Deputy Dean (Research)

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

Monash Arts research under this theme is producing an evidence-base for designing and enacting policy changes needed for coordinated action on climate change in light of ever-increasing frequency and severity of climate impacts. Outcomes of our research are shedding new light on Australia's national priorities for climate adaptation and resilience actions.

Regionally, our research is exploring different framings and interpretations of the climate threat in the Pacific and the associated policy responses, it looks at key concepts and theories related to climate security, disaster risk reduction and adaptation. Arts academics are working with Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and their partners to frame policy problems and find solutions to growing sustainability challenges in small islands. We are working with key regional and international partners and think tanks to map out and understand conditions under which SIDS can achieve financial sustainability, environmental justice, international alliances and equitable societies.

In relation to the issues of climate change and health our researchers are working with vulnerable communities in the Asia Pacific region to identify climate-related challenges and co-design strategies and solutions to strengthen community resilience.

Finally, our climate change communication and advocacy research aims to increase public understanding of climate change risks and issues. Through an innovative model of partnering with the media industry, our academics delivered accessible and engaging content on climate change for diverse audiences, many of whom are not exposed to factual climate information.

Latest projects

NATIONAL ADAPTATION STOCKTAKE MAPPING

[Dr Elissa Waters](#) (SoSS)

Bureau of Meteorology (BoM)



Over the past decade, adaptation projects and plans have been undertaken mainly at State and local scales and while there are excellent examples of adaptation action across the country, our knowledge of the adaptation landscape is patchy thus it is difficult to compare the extent of adaptation across scales and sectors. Developing a national picture of adaptation progress is an essential step in assessing climate risk, prioritising responses and planning for future risks.

This project, funded by Australian Climate Services and BoM, builds on a project undertaken in 2023 by Monash and the National Environmental Science Program to begin Australia's first National Adaptation Stocktake. This research aims to develop a detailed picture of current climate change adaptation actions and initiatives and seeks to answer a fundamental and important question for Australian climate policy – how is Australia progressing with adaptation across scales and sectors, and in response to different types of climate risks?

The stocktake will produce a database of coded adaptation actions, responses, programs and policies. It seeks to identify where adaptation is occurring, the extent of progress on stated outcomes, amounts of funding and types of risks each initiative is addressing. Once coded and verified this database will be made public and will be the first searchable repository of information on adaptation responses at a national scale in Australia.

This project works in partnership with state and federal governments to further develop the database to inform both the National Climate Risk Assessment and the National Adaptation Plan. It involves consultation with key stakeholders to identify key examples of adaptation across scales and will directly inform reporting on the 11 priority risks identified in the National Climate Risks Assessment. The public version will be a resource that can help end users, ranging from local governments to community organisations and industry, to understand adaptation gaps and needs and compare to learn from previous examples of adaptation responses.

THE SMARTEST ELEPHANTS IN THE ROOM: CONSULTANTS IN INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE POLITICS

[Dr Svenja Keele](#) (SoSS) and colleagues from
University of London

Climate Social Science Network (CSSN) - Brown
University



This international study investigates the role that McKinsey Co, has played in pivotal international climate negotiations over the past two decades. This research will produce novel empirical evidence of McKinsey's pervasive influence across multiple dimensions of international climate governance including the ubiquitous marginal abatement cost (MAC) curves that have shaped climate mitigation investment choices by businesses and governments, the international carbon credit scheme from reduced deforestation (REDD+), and behind-the-scenes UNFCCC negotiations. The project will develop a pioneering methodological toolkit for unmasking consulting activity across multiple spaces, places and scales of climate politics. As the global community grapples with a series of consulting scandals, this is a timely investigation into the nature and extent of consulting involvement in critical elements of the global climate governance architecture and the role they play as non-state actors in international climate politics.

The outputs of this research will inform a book proposal and methodological guidance paper, seminars to academic and policy making audiences involved in international climate politics.

CLIMATE RESILIENCE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

[Associate Professor Sharyn Davies](#)
(Monash Herb Feith Indonesian Engagement
Centre, LLCL)

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade



Eastern Indonesia is a priority area for climate change intervention for the Indonesian and Australian governments due to the risks of extreme climate-related natural disasters (DFAT, 2020; Katalis, 2022). The Climate Resilience Fellowship program funds six Indonesian fellows from Eastern Indonesia. The project builds on our Australian and Indonesian government funded KONEKSI project. Proposed activities and outputs play a crucial role in addressing climate change resilience through an interdisciplinary and inter-sectional approach with Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion focus.

The project provides capacity building opportunities for the fellows and their host institution and networking and collaboration opportunities, including with the [Climate Change Communication Research Hub](#) at Monash University in Australia. The project includes community engagement opportunities where the fellows are able to learn best practices in relation to climate change resilience from indigenous communities in Australia. Learnings from this project will be used to inform an advocacy plan and educational material for public awareness campaigns in Indonesia and Australia.



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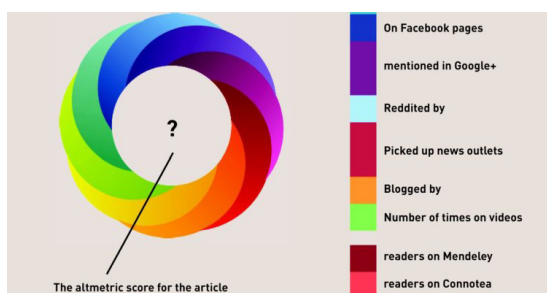
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[View all outputs published by Faculty of Arts](#)

ALTMETRICS



GEOPOLITICAL SECURITY

Latest projects

We explore Australia's relations with its regional neighbours, and Australia's role in regional and global stability and examine the factors associated with post conflict/disaster resolution and community reconciliation. Our research helps to identify how Pacific security cooperations could be best orientated to address current and future regional security challenges.

We explore digital disruption felt within and across borders and create evidence based, innovative approaches to counter coercive activities such as disinformation campaigns and dissemination of conspiracy. Our 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 Asia Pacific and globally and undertaking transformative research to understand the problem of violence against women addressing the structural drivers that cause and compound it.

TRADECRAFT SKILLS FOR GLOBAL DIPLOMACY: ISLAMIC AWARENESS COURSE

[Dr Susan Carland](#) (SoSS) and [Dr Aydogan Kars](#) (SoPHIS)

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)

DFAT's Diplomatic Academy is a specialist learning hub for Government officials working to advance Australia's interests internationally. In support of their mission, the two lead presenters in this bespoke program, Dr Susan Carland and Dr Aydogan Kars, have delivered the Islamic Awareness Program to 700+ participants, via face-to-face and online delivery, since 2018. This program designs and delivers online and/or face-to-face courses for DFAT graduate trainees, DFAT staff and public service employees in Australia and abroad. It aims to provide the participants with a deeper understanding of how religion in general, and Islam in particular, operates in different parts of the modern world. It introduces diverse themes (such as relevant history, gender, beliefs, practices & lived religion, political and legal systems, and conflict) aiming to develop the religious literacy and intercultural competence of the participants in representing Australia and improving global cohesion.

The Program adopts original group activities and interactive pedagogies, entails site visits, and invites speakers to collectively enhance the quality of the Program. The team have developed a platform, which features a comprehensive set of learning materials, to allow participant engagement before and after the in-person or online delivery. They cooperate with the internal evaluation team of DFAT to regularly update the Program content, and to tailor it in accordance with the specific interests or orientations of each participant cohort. The goal of the Program is to transfer knowledge and skills that will improve global diplomacy and trade through enhanced understanding of religion in the modern world.



ADVANCING COLLABORATIVE CONVERSATIONS ON GENDER EQUALITY IN AUSTRALIA AND KOREA

[Dr Hyein Ellen Cho](#) (LLCL) with colleagues from the University of Melbourne, Australian Catholic University, Relationships Australia NSW, Northern Sydney Region Korean Network, Australia, Korean Women Migrants Human Rights Centre, South Korea, Korean Institute of Criminology, South Korea, Korean National Police Agency, South Korea, Seoul National University, Yonsei University, Korean National Police University, Korea Sexual Violence Relief Centre, South Korea DFAT, Korean Women's Development Institute



Funded by DFAT and the Korean Women's Development Institute this program seeks to advance collaborative conversations on gender equality in Australia and South Korea by answering a critical research question: How can we address gender inequality and prevent violence against women through international collaboration and policy development in the region? The program will foster meaningful dialogue, strengthen institutional partnerships and facilitate cross-country learning.

It will generate an evidence-base needed to inform policy changes that can lead to closing the gender gaps. The collaboration ensures that both nations can benefit from shared experiences, ultimately enhancing the societal impact of their gender equality efforts and promoting a safer, more equitable environment for women and children in the region.

31ST JAPANESE/KOREAN LINGUISTICS CONFERENCE

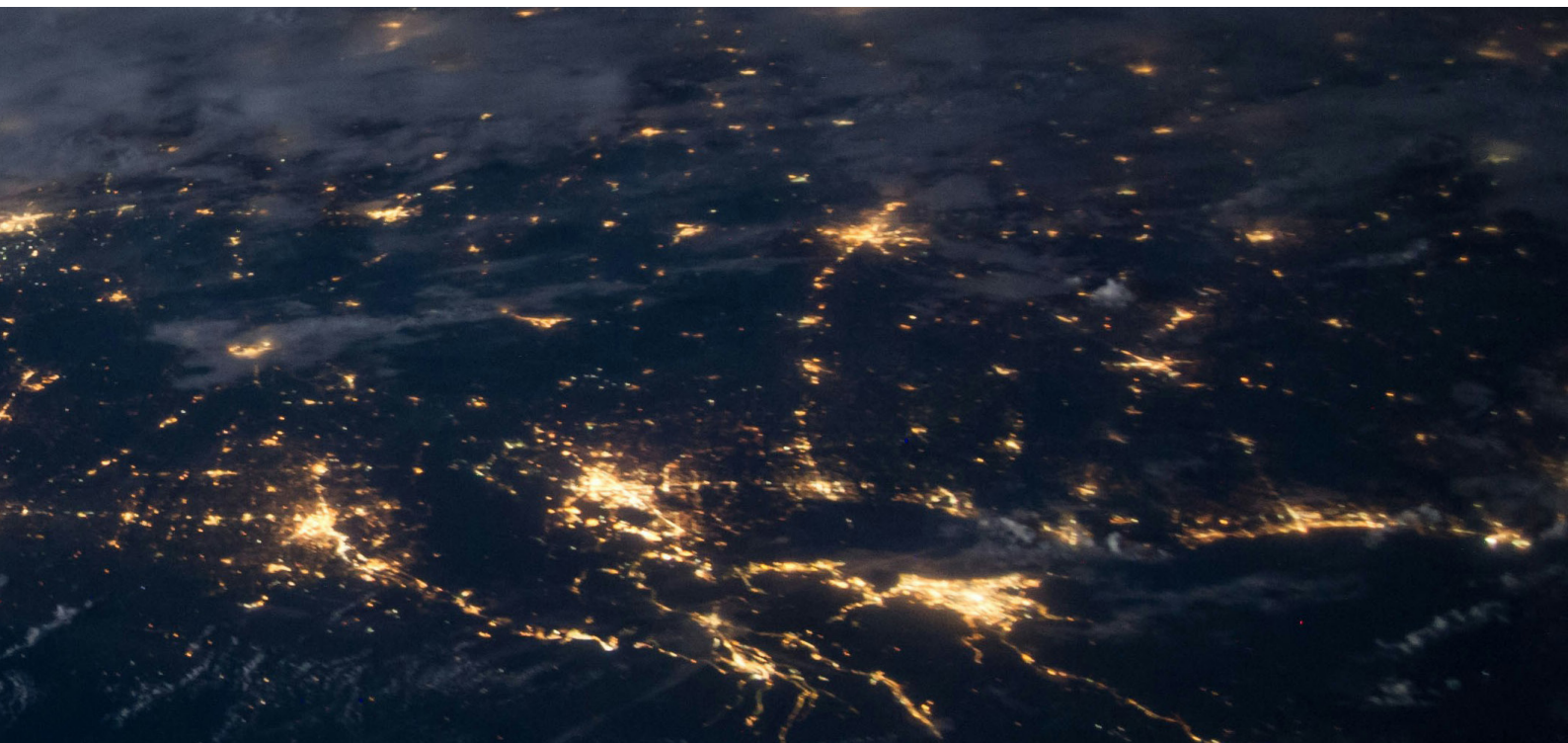
[Associate Professor Lucien Brown](#), [Dr Shimako Iwasaki](#), [Dr Satoshi Nambu](#) and [Dr Daniel Pieper](#) (LLCL)

Academy of Korean Studies, Japan Foundation, Japanese Studies Association of Australia



Funding from the Academy of Korean Studies, Japan Foundation, and the Japanese Studies Association of Australia will support the 31st Japanese/Korean Linguistics Conference (JK) held from October 30 to November 2, 2024. JK is the only long-running annual international conference and the single most important opportunity for Japanese and Korean linguistics experts to work in a research environment focused on languages. JK31 will be the first conference in the Southern Hemisphere.

The Conference runs over four days and is a combination of pre-conference workshops, keynotes, oral and poster presentations from around 80 delegates from Japan, Korea, and around the world.



THE POLITICS OF MARRIAGE IN THE JAPANESE EMPIRE: COMPETING DISCOURSES ON THE MARITAL FAMILY IN COLONIAL KOREA, TAIWAN AND THE METROPOLE

Dr Alison Darby, [Associate Professor Andy Jackson](#) (LLCL)

Korea Foundation



This Korea Foundation Fellowship for Postdoctoral Research will support Dr Alison Darby to further expand on her doctoral dissertation, entitled *Patriotic Marriage: Eugenics, Colonial Intimacy and the Politics of the Marital Family in the Japanese Empire, 1931–1945*.

The research project traces discourses on the ideal marital family across the Japanese metropole, and the two most significant colonies of Korea and Taiwan. It examines discourses on colonial intimacy and eugenic marriage, placing them within broader political debates over the changing nature of marriage and family relations in the Japanese empire.

It is the first comparative study on these marriage reform campaigns, and draws on archival research in Japanese, Korean and Chinese languages.

The project will contribute to gender studies of colonial Korea, the history of medicine, the reproductive sciences and eugenics in Korea, and comparative analyses of Korean and Taiwanese experiences of Japanese colonisation. In relation to the issue of regional stability and security, the project has broader implications for how we conceptualise the nature of state power in Imperial Japan as well as the significance of the Empire in understanding modern Japanese history.

ANALYSIS OF THE AUSTRALIAN MEDIA'S COVERAGE OF THE 2023 ISRAEL-GAZA WAR

[Dr Susan Carland](#) (SoSS)

Islamophobia Register Australia

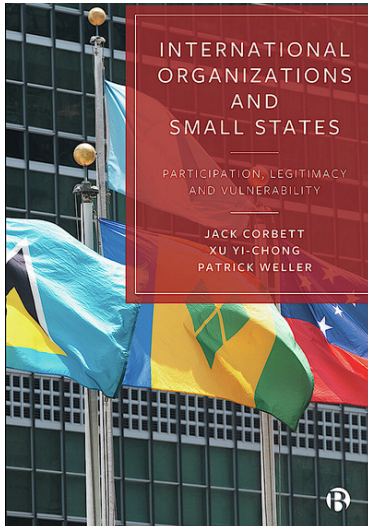


Partnering with the Islamophobia Register Australia, this research delves into the portrayal of the 2023 Israel-Gaza conflict within the Australian media landscape, specifically focusing on reporting shared through the Instagram accounts of six prominent news outlets: ABC News, The Australian, The Daily Telegraph, 9News, News.com.au, and The Daily Aus. Through a systematic analysis, this study investigates the framing, emphasis, and potential biases presented by these outlets during the conflict.

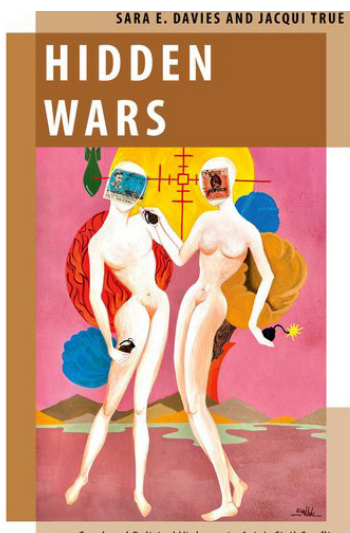
Findings of this study will be presented in a publicly available report to provide insights into the media representation of the Israel-Gaza conflict within the Australian context, facilitate informed discussions, and promote media literacy. This research seeks to engage a wider audience and stimulate discourse on the role of media in shaping public perceptions of international conflicts, Islamophobia, and anti-Palestinian racism.

Publications

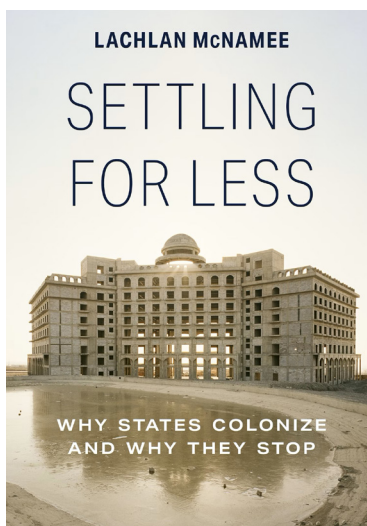
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THRIVING COMMUNITIES

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 partnerships 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 and addresses the cultural and economic drivers that underpin it.

Latest projects

RESEARCH ON ELDER ABUSE IN REGIONAL, RURAL AND REMOTE COMMUNITIES

[Associate Professor Bridget Harris](#), [Dr Naomi Pfitzner](#) (MGFVPC, SoSS), [Dr Kate Burns](#), [Dr Kathryn Benier](#), [Associate Professor Narelle Warren](#) (SoSS) and colleagues from Older Person's Advocacy Network Ltd, Edith Cowan University, Flinders University and University of the Sunshine Coast

Australian Attorney-General's Department



1 in 6 Australians experience elder abuse (15% of 598,000). However, in reality this figure is probably much higher given this harm is significantly under-reported and under-recorded. With Australia's aging population, and longer life expectancies, it is likely that the numbers of older adults subject to abuse will increase in coming years. Elder abuse is chronically under-addressed, particularly in regional, rural and remote areas. The absence of an evidence-base means there are limited support, response, and prevention initiatives to protect and empower older adults.

In this Australia-first study, the team will investigate elder abuse in regional, rural, and remote areas across Australia by engaging people with lived experience, advocates and practitioners. The project will provide a much needed evidence base to understand the types and dynamics of elder abuse; the barriers and challenges for older adults, government and non-government agencies seeking to address, prevent and respond to this violence; and recommendations to better protect and empower older adults, including in systems.

VICTIMS' VIEWS ON SENTENCING OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENCES

[Dr Jasmine McGowan](#), [Associate Professor Bridget Harris](#), [Dr Naomi Pfitzner](#) (MGFVPC, SoSS) and colleagues from Griffith University

Queensland Sentencing Advisory Council (QSAC)



In 2016 a legislative amendment was introduced in Queensland requiring judicial officers to treat domestic violence offences as an aggravating factor on sentence. This means the offence must be treated as being more serious because it happened in the context of domestic and family violence and that the perpetrator may receive a harsher sentence. In 2023, the former Attorney-General and Minister for Justice, Minister for Women and Minister for the

Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence, the Honourable Shannon Fentiman MP, asked the Queensland Sentencing Advisory Council to review how this change is operating and any impacts of this change on victim-survivors' satisfaction. This mixed methods project will examine victim-survivor views on the sentencing of domestic violence offenders in Queensland. The research will focus on victims' satisfaction with sentencing in light of the 2016 legislative amendment in Queensland, section 9(10A), which requires judicial officers to consider domestic violence as an aggravating factor during sentencing.

The Monash research team is commissioned to collect victim-survivor views on the sentencing of domestic violence offences and report on whether it is impacting satisfaction with sentencing and if so, in what way. The research will assess awareness, stakeholder views, satisfaction levels, broader societal and legal implications, and develop an evidence base to inform policy-making and sentencing practices related to domestic violence in Queensland. The Monash team's findings will inform decision making related to any changes that may need to be made to ensure the aggravating factor is operating as intended.

ADDITIONAL CONSULTATIONS FOR THE RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION FRAMEWORK

[Dr Naomi Pfitzner](#), [Associate Professor Bridget \(MGFVPC, SoSS\)](#), [Professor Kate Fitz-Gibbon \(Monash Business School\)](#), [Dr Emily Berger](#), [Associate Professor Kelly-Ann Allen](#) and [Dr Karen Lambert \(Faculty of Education\)](#) and colleagues from Deakin and UQ

Australian Department of Education (DoE)



The Monash Gender and Family Violence Prevention Centre, in partnership with Monash's Faculty of Education and education experts from Deakin University and Queensland University, are commissioned to map the delivery of consent and respectful relationships education (CRRE) in Australian schools. Building on a previous national stocktake and gap analysis of respectful relationships education programs and resources undertaken by the team, this project will conduct stakeholder consultations to develop a national framework to guide the delivery of high quality, evidence-based CRRE across Australian primary and secondary schools.

This project will enable the scope of the Framework to be extended beyond individual classroom teachers to CRRE decision-makers at all levels of Australia's school systems including government, independent and catholic schools and schools sectors.

EVALUATION OF THE IMPROVING MULTIDISCIPLINARY RESPONSES (IMR) PROGRAM FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Arney Chong Consulting, [Professor Kyllie Cripps \(MISC, SoSS & SOPHIS\)](#) and Tjallara Consulting Australia Department of Social Services (DSS)



The Department of Social Services (DSS) has engaged Arney Chong Consulting, Tjallara Consulting and Monash University to provide First Nations Program Evaluation Support expertise for the Improving Multidisciplinary Responses (IMR) program. IMR is a flagship program for DSS under the National Closing the Gap Agreement and Safe and Supported: The National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children. DSS has funded 15 grantees to undertake locally designed, implemented and evaluated projects to improve multidisciplinary responses for First Nations children, families and communities and provide enhanced health and wellbeing outcomes.

Central to the IMR program is the extent to which the funded projects contribute to Target 12 of the Closing the Gap Agreement: to reduce the rate of over-representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in care by 45% by 2031. IMR is also intended to enhance the application of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle and its pillars of prevention, participation, placement, connection and partnership.

The team are providing evaluation support services to examine the implementation and outcomes of the IMR program, including: developing evaluation capability through a community of practice approach; providing locally tailored evaluation support to funded projects and organisations; and implementing a nation-wide program evaluation of the IMR program.

MEDIA COVERAGE OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN FROM AN INTERSECTIONAL LENS

[Dr Andrea Baker \(MFJ\)](#)

OurWatch

This research explores the enabling and constraining factors that influence the media portrayals of violence against women from an intersectional lens, tied to factors such as age, gender, race, sexuality and ability. It also identifies emerging trends, such as the rise of social influencers and participatory journalism, and evaluates their impact on audience perceptions. Examining the role of media professionals and citizens in violence against women prevention, this research provides a guiding light for Our Watch's future engagements with media stakeholders in community-based education programs.

A DOMESTIC, FAMILY AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE (DFSV) ADVOCACY PACKAGE DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW

[Professor Kyllie Cripps](#) (MISC, SoSS & SOPHIS)

Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance Northern Territory



This project is a collaboration with the Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance Northern Territory (AMSANT) to support the social and emotional wellbeing team in their delivery of workforce development skills on domestic, family and sexual violence. Through co-design workshops with member services and key stakeholders Monash and AMSANT is developing a domestic, family, and sexual violence (DFSV) training package for member services and the broader workforce providing services to First Nations people. This package adopts a strong interdisciplinary approach recognising the professionals, sectors and communities working together to provide safety and support in the domestic, family and sexual violence space.

The training is informed by local, Australian, and international evidence bases to provide broad expert knowledge and resources needed to support workers in their specific work contexts. This is an important and timely collaboration that will provide confidence to those being trained in this package to provide support to victim-survivors of violence and their broader family and community groups.

TRAUMA-INFORMED RESPONSES FOR SEXUAL OFFENCE VICTIMS: PROTECTING SENSITIVE THIRD-PARTY EVIDENCE

Deakin University (Lead), [Dr Zarina Vakhitova](#) (SoSS) and colleagues from UNSW

Australian Institute of Criminology



The project aims to address the problem of how sexual offence victims' sensitive third-party evidence is used in criminal trials. It seeks to explore how trauma-informed victim independent legal representation (ILR) can better protect this evidence and improve victims' justice experiences. Implemented in collaboration with WESNET, Women's Legal Services Queensland, and Women's Legal Services Victoria, the project is the first Australian study to explore how sexual offence victims' sensitive third-party evidence can be better protected in criminal trials. The innovative approach of incorporating trauma-informed victim independent legal representation aims to address a significant gap in criminological knowledge and

criminal justice policy. The project has the potential to significantly impact legal practices and policies by providing empirical data on the use of victims' sensitive evidence in trials and thus lead to legislative changes that better protect victims, improve their court experiences, and reduce secondary victimisation. It also aims to foster a more supportive environment for sexual assault victims within the criminal justice system. The project has national applicability and relevance, with findings expected to inform legal practices and policies across Australia. It also holds potential international significance, as insights and recommendations could be applicable to other adversarial legal systems.

GUIDING INNOVATION IN ASSISTED REPRODUCTION WITH VITROLIFE

[Professor Catherine Mills](#) (SoPHIS)

Vitrolife Sweden AB



In Australia, approximately 1 in 20 children are born as a result of assisted reproductive technologies. However, the ethics and regulation of technology innovation and implementation are unclear, disputed and often disconnected from the technology development process. Vitrolife, a global leader in developing reproductive technologies and genetic testing, has engaged Professor Catherine Mills as a member of its Bioethics Advisory Board. She will provide advice on current and future Research & Development for VitroLife at internal bioethics committee meetings. As a member of the Bioethics Advisory Board of VitroLife, Mills will have a direct impact on technology innovation and implementation, including in the Australian fertility industry.

COMMUNICATION WITH LANGUAGE MINORITY PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL SETTINGS

[Associate Professor Louisa Willoughby](#) (LLCL)

Monash Health



The project address the challenges associated with effective communication with non-English-speaking (NESB) patients in healthcare settings where interpreters are unavailable. Recognising the critical importance of clear communication in facilitating quality healthcare delivery, particularly in contexts characterised by linguistic diversity, this initiative seeks to explore innovative strategies to bridge the communication gap. By leveraging interdisciplinary insights and employing contextualised approaches, the project endeavours to

develop practical solutions to enhance patient-provider interactions and mitigate disparities in healthcare access and outcomes among NESB populations. This research contributes insights and tangible interventions towards fostering inclusive and equitable healthcare practices for diverse patient cohorts.

MONASH ART ENSEMBLE: COMPOSITION, RECORDING AND PERFORMANCE (2023 - 2026)

[Associate Professor Robert Burke, Dr Paul Williamson](#) (SZCSOMP)

Minsmere Pty Ltd



The Monash Art Ensemble (MAE) is a large experimental ensemble with a focus on commissioning, performance and documentation of new works of Australian music. The project will advance this pursuit by facilitating research into the intersection of composition and improvisation with the aim of addressing the question of how experimentation in improvisation contributes to the development of novel models of composition and vice versa. Specifically, this research will feature a conceptual framework inclusive of different aspects of improvisation and Australian Indigenous music and how they inform, intersect and are positioned in the nexus of composition and improvisation.

The project will involve collaborations with colleagues from Columbia University and other international partnerships. Nationally, the project will collaborate with the Young Wagilak Group from the Northern Territory. Outcomes will include the creation of new works and the dissemination of performances at the Melbourne International Jazz Festival and the Melbourne International Women's Jazz Festival. This funding will enable collaboration with world-class composers and performers such as Miya Masaoka, George Lewis, Aaron Wyatt and Dr Iran Sanadzadeh.

DEFINING AND MANAGING BUTCHULLA UNDERWATER CULTURAL HERITAGE OF K'GARI

[Professor Ian McNiven](#) (MISC, SoPHIS), Butchulla Native Title Aboriginal Corporation, James Cook University

Australian Department of Industry, Science and Resources



This project is the first to document the form and significance of tangible and intangible underwater cultural heritage within the intertidal and adjacent subtidal zones of the K'gari (Fraser Island) World Heritage Area, SE Queensland. The range of known and potential sites/places will be documented using historical and archival information, interviews with Butchulla Elders, and 3D bathymetric mapping. The conceptually innovative project investigates tangible and intangible heritage blurring the Indigenous-European and culture-nature heritage divides. The project will enhance knowledge and understanding of K'gari's cultural heritage values and future management needs, including mediating the impacts of sea level rise. The project was co-designed by Professor Ian McNiven (who has worked with the Butchulla community for over 30 years) and the Butchulla Native Title Aboriginal Corporation (BNTAC). The team will work with the Butchulla community members to assemble historical information on Butchulla and European use, augmented by information obtained through interviews with knowledgeable members of the local Butchulla and non-Butchulla communities in the greater Hervey Bay region. Insights into ancient use of the study area during periods of lower sea level more than 8000 years ago when the current seabed was dry land will be obtained by taking contemporary high-resolution bathymetric mapping by Geoscience Australia and modelling at predicted archaeological site locations.

Existing archaeological, archival, and Butchulla cultural knowledge indicates that seas surrounding K'gari were a rich source of marine foods such as fish, shellfish, and turtles for thousands of years. The Butchulla Underwater Cultural Heritage Project will provide new information and evocative stories on the cultural dimensions of where K'gari meets the sea to help protect K'gari's heritage.

SHOWING STORIES: ANCESTRAL NARRATIVES IN THE ARTISTIC PRACTICE OF NORTH-CENTRAL ARNHEM LAND

[Dr Jill Vaughan](#) (LLCL), Bininj Kunwok Regional Language Centre Ltd

Arcadia Fund - Endangered Languages Documentation Programme



This collaborative project is documenting endangered multilingual practices relating to traditional and emerging artistic endeavours in north-central Arnhem Land. The project team is made up of academic and community linguists, including speakers of Indigenous languages of the Maningrida region, and involves several local institutions (Maningrida Arts and Culture, Bábarra Women's Centre and the Bininj Kunwok Regional Language Centre). This endeavour is built on a decade of collaborative language work between the lead researcher and communities and institutions in Maningrida.

In Arnhem Land, painting, weaving and sculpture are “an integral part of the aesthetics of everyday life, yet are also closely connected with the sacred”. Specific stories and ancestor beings are associated with and expressed through the artistic practices of each clan group. In the words of Kunwinjku artist Jill Nganjmirra, “I work on weaving, making basket, mat, string bag, painting, telling the Dreamtime stories [...] they all have a story with it.” (Nganjmirra 2005: xiii). The symbolism drawn on in artworks can have deep personal significance for individual artists, such as the totems associated with particular clans that are the unique cultural property of each artist.

The team will record and translate (i) traditional narratives about ancestral beings, country and clan, as represented in bark painting, sculpture, weaving and fabric printing; (ii) procedural texts explaining the methods and materials behind artistic production; and (iii) natural conversation. Recordings will be made in highly endangered languages of the region, specifically Ndjébbana, Gurr-goni, Na-kara and Rembarnga.

Project outcomes will include an archival collection of endangered language practices relating to the region’s strong artistic tradition as well as practical community language materials including a multilingual art and culture dictionary and a book featuring the art alongside documentation in local languages and English. These materials will contribute to language support activities at the Cultural Research Office at Maningrida Arts and Culture and at the local school. A key measure of project success will be local capacity building in language recording and documentation, as well as development of models for collaborative, community-led research into art and language Practice.

A ‘WHOLE-OF-SETTING’ MODEL OF CARE FOR TRANS AND GENDER-DIVERSE PEOPLE IN PRISON MRFF EMERGING PRIORITIES AND CONSUMER DRIVEN RESEARCH INITIATIVE

Led by UNSW, [Dr Matt Maycock](#) SoSS and colleagues from University of Southern Queensland, Western Sydney University; Curtin University and University of Queensland

MRFF Emerging Priorities and Consumer Driven Research Initiative



This project is a collaboration with international researchers, clinicians, and government agencies to construct a comprehensive evidence-based model of care tailored to the needs of transgender and gender-diverse (“trans”) individuals in prison settings. The project builds upon recent government initiatives, emphasising a ‘whole-of-setting’, multidisciplinary approach to address the acute intersectional disadvantage experienced by this population.

The proposed model seeks to establish a cohesive framework for best practice within prison systems, with the overarching goal of facilitating institutional reform. This reform will encompass improvements in intake procedures, housing placement, healthcare provision, peer support systems, staff training, and discharge planning policies. The objective is to enhance access to coordinated, stigma-free care for incarcerated trans individuals, thereby mitigating daily psychological distress and physical and sexual victimisation, as well as reducing the risks of self-harm, and sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including HIV, and death in custody. In collaboration with government partners, a feasibility evaluation of the model will be conducted to identify key elements necessary for rapid implementation within New South Wales (NSW). This project represents a sector leading community engagement model, where the NSW Trans and Gender Diverse Criminal Justice System Advisory Council shaped all aspects of this project, including the application and the study design itself. This ensures that Trans and Gender Diverse community members have meaningfully had input into how this project has developed, and they will be central to the implementation of the project. The resultant evidence base and care model will inform the development of national policy guidelines and also have implications for scalability at a global level.

COMET AMS: CONSTRUCTING ONE HEALTH OUTCOME MEASURES FOR EVALUATING ANTIMICROBIAL STEWARDSHIP

University of Melbourne (Lead), [Dr Allegra Schermuly](#), [Associate Prof Mark Davis](#) (SoSS) and colleagues from UNSW, University of Oxford; University of Washington, RMIT University, The University of Queensland, University of Cape Town and University of Guelph

MRFF - Early to Mid-Career Researchers Grant



This project involves a team of early career researchers from the University of Melbourne, Monash University, the University of Washington and UNSW. COMet AMS will devise and authenticate a comprehensive set of outcome measures for antimicrobial stewardship. These measures will be practical and implementable across the spectrum of healthcare practitioners, consumers, farmers and policymakers. The core investigatory team of ECRs includes emerging scholars from human and animal healthcare, biomedicine and the social sciences.

Through collaboration, this research will further the discourse, policy and practice on antimicrobial stewardship, fostering improved healthcare outcomes, impact and informed decision-making on the use of antimicrobials within the Australian context and globally.

PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CHINESE LIBRARY IN BALLARAT: EXPLORING THE TEXTS, CONTEXTS AND PARATEXTS OF ZHU DAKE'S WORKS

[Dr Marc Xu](#) and [Dr Hailan Paulsen](#) (LLCL)

Xin Jin Shan Chinese Library



Monash University experts have embarked on a groundbreaking translation project centred around the works of esteemed Chinese scholar and cultural critic, Zhu Dake. Supported by the Xin Jin Shan Library in Ballarat, the largest Chinese language library in the Southern Hemisphere, this initiative marks the first-ever English translation of Dake's writings.

Zhu Dake is an esteemed Chinese scholar and avant-garde cultural critic. While he enjoys widespread popularity in China, the English-speaking world, particularly Australians of Chinese heritage, often encounter barriers in understanding Zhu Dake's works due to the intricate cultural references and metaphors embedded in his texts.

This project involves translating and researching Zhu Dake's works, with a focus on Chinese cultural metaphors, in collaboration with the author and the Xin Jin Shan Chinese library based in Ballarat, Victoria.

The team has been cultivating a relationship with the author, Zhu Dake, the Xin Jin Shan Chinese library, and broader Chinese communities since 2017. This project focuses on cultural metaphors in Zhu Dake's mythological works. Zhu developed a distinctive literary voice, adopting metaphorical language tactfully as a vehicle to respond to the controversies in China. His works have created waves across China and overseas. His unique metaphorical language, encoding Chinese history, folklore, and ancient languages, has been known as 'Zhuspeak', a distinctive literary genre named after the author's surname.

Changing geo-political realities have given rise to new challenges for intercultural communication in the Asia-Pacific, including Australia and China. This project enhances Asia-literacy and intercultural competence of Australians in this uncharted research territory of decoding cultural metaphors to connect with Asia for a shared vision of harmony in cultural diversity. Among other outcomes, the project will produce annotated translations, a unique resource for successfully engaging diverse audiences across Australia.

This study will promote Australian and Chinese cultural dialogues that increase mutual understanding and promote diversity of cultural expression in Australia.



The Xin Jin Shan Library in Ballarat, courtesy of the library

The background of the entire page is an abstract, marbled pattern in shades of blue and white. The pattern consists of swirling, organic shapes that resemble liquid paint or ink being mixed together. The colors range from deep, dark blues to bright, almost white highlights, creating a complex, textured effect. The overall composition is dynamic and visually engaging.

ARTS ARC INDUSTRY FELLOWSHIPS

The ARC Industry Fellowships support academic researchers partnering with industry, with the goal to increase two-way mobility and skill-building in research collaboration, translation, and commercialisation.

MEETING THE DEMAND FOR DONOR EGGS: ETHICAL, SOCIAL AND REGULATORY ISSUES

[Dr Molly Johnston](#) (Monash Bioethics Centre, SoPHIS)

ARC Early Career Industry Fellowship



This project seeks to address the significant challenges faced by both public and private assisted reproductive clinics across Australia in meeting the demand from prospective parents who require access to donated eggs to have a child. Australia's assisted reproduction industry is hampered in addressing the shortfall of donor eggs by obstacles and inconsistencies in the regulation and management of egg donation. This project responds to this industry challenge and partners with Monash IVF Group, a leading provider of assisted reproduction, the Royal Women's Hospital Public Fertility Service, as caretakers of the newly established public egg bank, and the Fertility Society of Australia and New Zealand (FSANZ), the peak professional body for the assisted reproduction industry.

The project will investigate the ethical, social, and regulatory issues related to the procurement, management, and use of donor eggs, to provide evidence-based guidance on optimising egg donation in Australia. This interdisciplinary project combines empirical and ethical methods to provide the nuanced and dynamic understanding of the industry challenge needed to strengthen egg donation practice and policy. The Project will provide ethical and regulatory clarity to the assisted reproduction industry in managing reproduction through donor eggs. Ultimately, it seeks to address the gap between the demand for and supply of donor eggs needed to service patients into the future and maintain Australia's position as a global leader in assisted reproduction and an example of a best practice industry internationally.

This project was one of the three (3) ECR IFPs awarded to Monash University.

TRANSFORMING AUSLAN EDUCATION IN AUSTRALIA

[Associate Professor Louisa Willoughby](#) (LLCL)

ARC Mid- Career Industry Fellowship, Melbourne Polytechnic, Department of Education (Victoria)



Australia has an Auslan education crisis. Not enough teachers are available to meet demand for classes and no training pipeline exists for new or current teachers to improve their skills. This project aims to address this crisis by partnering with Deaf Auslan teachers and organisations to develop innovative and enduring resources for Auslan teachers. It will generate new knowledge in the globally under-researched area of sign language teaching and create enduring partnerships and mobility between universities and Auslan teachers.

The project will uncover skills and practices needed to effectively teach sign languages along with evidence-based teaching resources and training materials about Auslan in Auslan. It will create a national network delivering preservice training to Auslan teachers, ongoing professional learning activities and a resource hub.

The benefits of the research include professionalising Auslan teaching, improving student learning and retention and creating a more inclusive Australia for Deaf people. In addition to producing new teaching resources, the project will leverage the work of the [Sign Language@Monash](#) and update the Signbank (the Auslan dictionary) plus produce a new app for teaching fingerspelling.

The project is a culmination of 15 years of research partnership Associate Professor Louisa Willoughby has had with Melbourne Polytechnic.

This was the only mid-career IFP awarded at Monash University and one of only three (3) awarded in the HASS disciplines of Human Society, and Language, Communication and Culture in 2024.

RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP OF TRUST

Today, GLaWAC and Monash University are showing what a true Traditional Owner-led partnership should look like. It's only when you combine the Western scientific techniques with our traditional knowledge that the whole story can start to unfold.

Uncle Russell Mullett

In 2017, a delegation from the GunaiKurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation (GLaWAC) visited Monash Arts to explore avenues for collaboration on several research and education topics of relevance to GLaWAC. Through numerous archaeological and cultural explorations and studies since then, this collaboration has evolved into a robust partnership of trust with a GunaiKurnai-led, shared goal of 'caring for Country', including cultural heritage places and knowledge.

This partnership is a prime example of community-initiated and co-designed collaboration, developed hand in hand with community partners. It underscores the message that any successful research partnership must be founded on principles of trust, listening and two-way learning.

Importantly, it demonstrates that the process of fostering collaboration based on mutual respect and ethical considerations is equally as important as the research outcomes it yields, and that it is a privilege to research other peoples' cultures and places.

It also highlights the crucial role of institutional commitment and dedication in enabling successful research partnerships with community partners.

The following two projects demonstrate how articulating archaeology and Indigenous knowledges with Western HASS and STEM disciplines can lead to the discovery of new insights and knowledge. They are a testament to the landmark partnership between GLaWAC and Monash Arts.



Professor Bruno David and Uncle Russell Mullett in Cloggs Cave, courtesy of the GunaiKurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation

KATUNGAL: MANAGING ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES THREATENED BY SEA LEVEL RISE

[Professor Bruno David](#) (MISC, SoPHIS),
Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation

ARC Industry Laureate Fellowship



Untold numbers of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander coastal archaeological sites and landforms are being destroyed around Australia by accelerating rates of erosion caused by sea level rise, changing storm patterns and encroaching coastal developments. The vast majority of such threatened coastal archaeological sites and landforms have not been documented or investigated, so that their stories remain untold and what is being lost forever remains largely unknown. Mitigation strategies need to be developed before it is too late. Working in close partnership with Aboriginal representative organisations with significant areas of coast and sea Country, the Katungal research programme intends to transform how coastal archaeological sites and landscapes are studied, and to build management capacity through a new generation of Aboriginal Sea Rangers to map, monitor and manage priority coastal sites and landscapes threatened by erosion.

This research-with-education programme will investigate Aboriginal coastal archaeological sites and landforms endangered by sea level rise. It will generate new knowledge on the distribution, characteristics and antiquity of Gunaikurnai archaeological sites in vulnerable landforms of the Gippsland coast. A key outcome is development of a new, nationally and internationally applicable method to predict and monitor the susceptibility of coastal archaeological sites and landscapes to erosion, and the training of a generation of Aboriginal Sea Rangers in land-and-sea Country research, monitoring and management. This will provide significant benefits for the management of coastal archaeological places by Indigenous organisations and land management agencies.

This partnership will document and safeguard vulnerable coastal sites and landforms that connect Aboriginal peoples to Country, and share in culturally appropriate ways the importance and cultural values of these coastal places with the broader Australian and international public.

BEFORE AND AFTER THE LAST ICE AGE: GUNAIKURNAI ARCHAEOLOGY ALONG THE SNOWY

[Professor Bruno David](#) (MISC, S0PHIS) with colleagues from University of Melbourne, University of Adelaide, University of New England (Australia), Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation, University of Queensland, Université Savoie Mont Blanc and University of Waikato

ARC Linkage Projects (LP), Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation

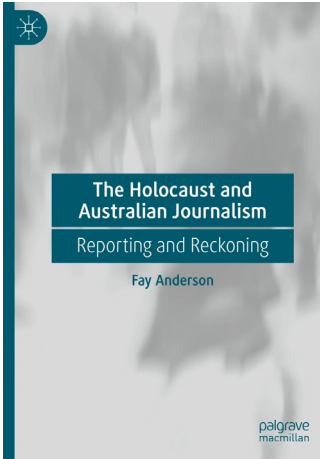


This project will transform our understanding of the deep-time Aboriginal occupation of Victoria's Snowy River landscape, by excavating a network of sites dating back to >52,000 years. This project will generate new knowledge in archaeology and palaeoclimatology through partnership research in Gunaikurnai Country. It investigates Australia's deep-time Aboriginal history through community-led archaeological and palaeoclimate research priorities in Victoria's Buchan-Snowy River limestone landscape. Partnered with the Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation and Rock Art Australia, this five-year research programme will transform how this landscape is understood by investigating superbly preserved ancient artefacts (including Australia's oldest known wooden artefacts), ancient DNA and buried ritual structures dating back to the Last Ice Age.

Grounded in a partnership that prioritises the research and educational needs and aspirations of the Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation, benefits of this project include helping to tell the stories of the Gunaikurnai Old Ancestors via their ancestral residential, resourcing, and special-purpose secluded places. Results of the project will be shared on-Country with the Gunaikurnai community and incorporated into public education and visitor programs.

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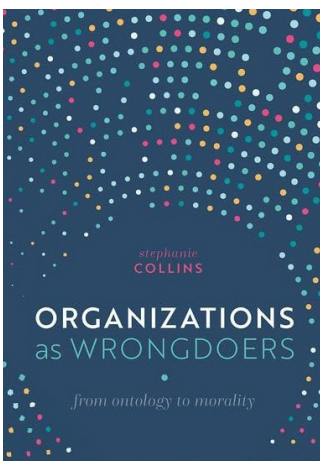
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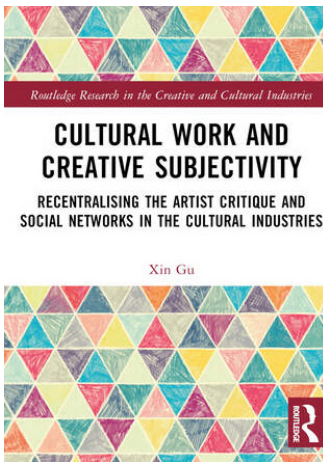


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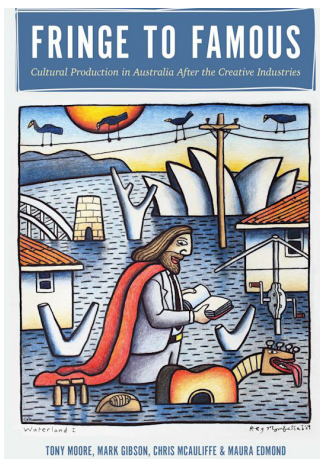


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ARTS ENTERPRISE AND ENGAGEMENT



*"This story is bigger than a just book, bigger than just a documentary.
We had to adopt an enterprising approach to its telling or
risk losing much of the complexity of Australia's convict history."*

Associate Professor Tony Moore

Unshackling enterprising research

In 2019 [Associate Professor Tony Moore](#) was awarded an ARC Linkage grant to undertake a project aimed at answering core Australian questions: “Who are we?” and “Why are we like this?” By forging strategic partnerships and embracing innovative approaches to analysis of digitised archive records and multimedia historical storytelling, Associate Professor Moore’s ARC Linkage project, [Conviction Politics: A digital investigation of the convict routes of Australian democracy](#), has brought an invigorated national narrative to content-hungry audiences and the scholarly field with impressive success.

Conviction Politics is an international digital history project exploring the impact of radicals and rebels transported as political convicts to Australia on their place of exile, and the patterns of collective resistance by the mass of unfree convict men, women and children to the exploitation of their forced labour.

Globally-scattered archives on convict transportation captured convicts’ information: and the minutiae of their conduct for rapid identification and surveillance, effectively erecting a “data panopticon” – or a data prison – in the Australian colonies. This data can now be digitised, linked and searched, with a different story of convict transportation emerging through analysis aided by machine learning.

Through this process, Associate Professor Moore and his team – including [Monash SensiLab’s Dr Monika Schwarz](#) and [Professor Jon McCormack](#) – uncovered collective patterns of resistance on a massive scale, including strikes, go-slows, refusals to eat, sabotage, group absconding, and the formation of union-like combinations. This extended to the discovery of a network of women convict resisters – a counter-culture linked over a succession of protests in different ‘female Factories’ across Van Dieman’s land’.

In his mission to relay their stories, Associate Professor Moore extended Conviction Politics’ reach well beyond the parameters of traditional humanities research outputs.

Working with [seven universities, 11 partners and eight collaborators](#) – spanning universities, archives, museums, trade unions, a creative digital media company, and a law firm – Associate Professor Moore and his team transformed their research into an [online transmedia hub](#) developed by digital media production house Roar Film, featuring 100 micro-documentaries, as well as data visualisations, podcasts, image archives, written articles, and original songs.

Conviction Politics has generated a suite of music written and performed by Australian artists led by project Musical Director Mick Thomas, a book titled *Unfree Workers*, and [UNSHACKLED: The True Convict Story](#), an immersive exhibition of rare objects and digital interactive media currently on display at the Tasmanian Museum and Gallery (TMAG) until 28 July 2024, with future stops planned across Australia, the United Kingdom and Ireland.

Co-created with project partners Roar Film and TMAG, UNSHACKLED continues Conviction Politics’ works to push the boundaries of conventional academic mediums by bringing convict stories to life through animated portraits, sensitive technology, augmented reality, short documentaries, rare solid objects, and original soundscapes, with visitors navigating the experience using a QR code-enabled [smartphone app](#).

Work with Libraries Tasmania, Tasmanian Education and NSW Teachers Federation has developed Conviction Politics teaching resources for public-school history curricula – seeking to make a real impression on how future generations understand Australia’s convict history.

This is a prime example of a HASS project leading enterprising endeavours with industry and community partners to produce new knowledge, research innovation and real-life outcomes for partners and communities.

NEWS FROM THE ARTS GRADUATE RESEARCH



RESEARCHER SPOTLIGHT

[Aaron Wyatt](#) is a proud Noongar man from Perth, Western Australia. Aaron is an accomplished violinist, composer, conductor, researcher and assistant lecturer in Classical Music (Viola) at The Sir Zelman Cowen School of Music and Performance at Monash University.

Aaron joined Monash in 2018 and is a PhD Candidate with his thesis on Animated Graphic Notation on the iPad: The Decibel ScorePlayer. He has performed in many highly successful and notable orchestras such as the West Australian Symphony Orchestra, including the award winning City of Shadows, which went on to perform seasons in New York and Melbourne, and Barking Gecko's critically acclaimed production of Duck Death and the Tulip. He has been the musical director of the South Side Symphony Orchestra, conductor with the Allegri Chamber Orchestra, and conducted the initial workshop in Adelaide of Professor Cat Hope's opera 'Speechless'.

He has also worked and toured with the Decibel New Music Ensemble, both as a player and as a programmer of the group's animated graphic notation software for the iPad.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DOCTORS OF PHILOSOPHY (JANUARY-JUNE 2024)

Dr Heidi Joy

MFJ, Thesis: [Faith in technology: authority, community, identity and digital media at an Australian megachurch. A case study of Crossway Baptist Church, Melbourne, Australia](#)

Supervisors: Dr Aneta Podkalicka, A/Prof Zala Volcic,

Dr Jill Barnard

SoPHIS, Thesis: [The Family Lives of Forgotten Australians](#)

Supervisors: Prof Alistair Thomson, Dr Johnny Bell, Dr Kate Murphy

Dr Delia Paul

SoSS, Thesis: [Civil Society in the Multilevel Governance of Water Security in Johor state, Malaysia: Shifting and ambiguous roles](#)

Supervisors: Prof Megan Farrelly, Prof Helen Nesadurai, Dr Benjamin Thompson

Dr Anthony Williams

LLCL, Thesis: [The Enigma of le in Mandarin Chinese: An Event Quantifier Account of le and non-le with Action Predicates](#)

Supervisors: Prof Kathryn Burrige, Dr Scott Grant, Dr Simon Musgrave

Dr Wui Jia Cheah

Malaysia Sch Of Arts & Social Sciences, Thesis: [\(Un\)broken Faith - Doubt and Departure in the Evangelical Church of Malaysia](#)

Supervisors: Prof Sharon A Bong, A/Prof Seng Guan Yeoh

Dr Uma Muthia

MFJ, Thesis: [Resecuring 'The West' Through British And American Newspaper Framing Of The 2018 U.S. Withdrawal From The Iran Nuclear Deal](#)

Supervisors: Dr Stephanie Brookes, Dr Bill Flanik

Dr Elizabeth Burrell

SoPHIS, Thesis: [Words for Wellbeing: Charms, Caregiving and Health in England, 1300-1550](#)

Supervisors: Prof Guy Geltner, A/Prof Carolyn James

Dr James Lister

LLCL, Thesis: [On the Age of Energiewende: Anticipation and Response in German Literature](#)

Supervisors: A/Prof Christiane Weller, A/Prof Axel Fliethmann

Dr Joshua Hatherley

SoPHIS, Thesis: [Data over dialogue: Why artificial intelligence is unlikely to humanise medicine](#)

Supervisors: Prof Robert Sparrow, Prof Justin Oakley

Dr James Paterson

SoSS, Thesis: [Adapt or die: Examining al Qaeda adaptive process](#)

Supervisors: A/Prof Benjamin Macqueen, Dr Remy Davison, Dr Alexandra Phelan

Dr Suzanne Grasso

LLCL, Thesis: [Multilingual development advice at the Maternal and Child Health Service](#)

Supervisors: A/Prof Louisa Willoughby, Dr Jane Vaughan, Dr Anna Margetts

Dr Rhoda Darkwah

SoSS, Thesis: [A city without crisis: politics of institutional culture in urban water management in Melbourne](#)

Supervisors: Prof Megan Farrelly, Dr Julian Yates

Dr Elsie Mei-Li Foeken

SoSS, Thesis: [\(Self-\)governing through gig time: Exploring the gendered times of power in Australian home task app-work](#)

Supervisors: Prof Steven Roberts, Prof JaneMaree Maher, Dr Claire Tanner

Dr Andi Brown

SoSS, Thesis: ["This stuff just wouldn't have cause to enter your mind": Technologists' perspectives on smart home technology-facilitated abuse](#)

Supervisors: A/Prof Asher Flynn, A/Prof Lennon Chang

Dr Natasha Singh Raghuvanshi

SoSS, Thesis: [India as a Gendered State: Implications for the UNSC's Women, Peace and Security Agenda](#)

Supervisors: Dr Eleanor Gordon, Prof Katrina Lee-Koo

Dr Callan Norman

MFJ, Thesis: [Deep Fakes Killed the Movie Star \(And Brought Them Back Again\): Cinematic Representation in the Era of Digital Actors](#)

Supervisors: A/Prof Deane Williams, Dr Claire Perkins

Dr Hung Pham

SoSS, Thesis: [Policymaking in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations: The Development of Cooperation and Regional Integration](#)

Supervisors: Prof Robert Thomson, Prof Michael Mintrom

Dr An Nguyen

SoSS, Thesis: [Access to Reproductive Healthcare for Women with Physical Disabilities in Ho Chi Minh city, Vietnam](#)

Supervisors: A/Prof Narelle Warren, Dr John Gardner, Prof Andrea Whittaker

Dr Hugh Nettelbeck

LLCL, Thesis: [Decision making in the subtitling process: Facilitating communication between stakeholders](#)

Supervisors: Dr Shani Tobias, Dr Tessa Dwyer, Prof Rebecca Margolis

Dr Isabella Mahoney

MFJ, Thesis: [Re-vocalising the Screen Siren: From Homer to Hollywood](#)

Supervisors: Dr Tessa Dwyer, Prof Belinda Smail

Dr Alexander McDonald

LLCL, Thesis: [John Berger and Cubism](#)

Supervisors: Dr Ali Alizadeh, Dr Chris Murray

Dr Charles Diab

SoSS, Thesis: [CSR Decision-Making In Multinational Corporations' Headquarters And Their Subsidiaries In United Arab Emirates](#)

Supervisors: A/Prof Wendy Stubbs, A/Prof Benjamin Macqueen,

Dr Soyeon Kim

LLCL, Thesis: [Family Language Policy of Cross-Cultural Families in Australia and South Korea](#)

Supervisors: A/Prof Lucien Brown, Dr Daniel Pieper

Dr Ryota Wakamatsu

SoSS, Thesis: [Hopeful Migrations: An Analysis of Narratives of Migrants from the Fukushima Nuclear Disaster](#)

Supervisors: Prof Alan Petersen, Prof Carolyn Stevens

Dr Isabelle Laskaris

SoPHIS, Thesis: ["As Life from the Dead": New England Slave Resistance, 1650-1800](#)

Supervisors: Dr Tim Verhoeven, A/Prof Julie Kalman

Dr Turki Mohammad M Alshehri

MFJ, Thesis: [Documentary Film Ethics in the Saudi Arabian Context](#)

Supervisors: A/Prof Deane Williams, Prof Belinda Smail

Dr Duc Huy Phan

SoSS, Thesis: [Cross-border identity crime in Vietnam: An examination of the commission and policing of crime from the perspectives of offenders and police officers](#)

Supervisors: A/Prof Marie Segrave, A/Prof Lennon Chang, Dr Shih-Joo Tan

Dr Xianming Fang

LLCL, Thesis: [Refusals in English as a Lingua Franca: An Investigation of Chinese and Indonesian Speakers of English](#)

Supervisors: A/Prof Lucien Brown, Dr Howard Manns

Dr Gawain Lucian Lax

MFJ, Thesis: [Towards Transgender Game Studies: The Necromantic Mode and its Trans-Figurations](#)

Supervisors: Dr Daniel Black, Dr Robbie Fordyce

Dr Nuri Widiastuti Veronika

SoSS, Thesis: [Indonesian Women's Engagement in Extremism: Understanding Gender-Specific Involvement and Policy Responses \(2016 - 2021\)](#)

Supervisors: Dr Alexandra Phelan, Prof Jacqui True

Dr Xinwei Chen

SoSS, Thesis: [Governance in China: The Role of Think Tanks in Defining Policy Agendas](#)

Supervisors: Prof Robert Thomson, Prof Michael Mintrom

Dr Thomas Ennever

LLCL, Thesis: [Topics in a Grammar of Space of Kukatja](#)

Supervisors: Prof Alice Gaby, Dr Anna Margetts

CONGRATULATIONS TO DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (CREATIVE WRITING) GRADUATES (JANUARY-JUNE 2024)

Dr Angela Jones

LLCL, Thesis: [The Slackacademics](#)

Supervisors: A/Prof Simone Murray, A/Prof Michelle Smith

Dr Jackson Payne

LLCL, Thesis: [Reading Gaps and Writing Distances: Toward a Narratology of the Short Story Cycle](#)

Supervisors: Dr Ali Alizadeh, A/Prof Christiane Weller

CONGRATULATIONS TO DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (THEATRE PERFORMANCE) GRADUATES (JANUARY-JUNE 2024)

Dr Roxana Paun Trifan

SZCSOMP, Thesis: [Masha in Translation](#)

Supervisors: Dr Fiona Gregory, Dr Felix Nobis

Dr Alison Ingram

SZCSOMP, Thesis: [Countering the Silence of Adoption Trauma: Towards an Ethical and Authentic Post-Verbatim Theatre Model](#)

Supervisors: Dr Fiona Gregory, Prof JaneMaree Maher, Dr Felix Nobis

CONGRATULATIONS TO MASTER OF ARTS AND MASTER OF ARTS (RESEARCH TRAINING) GRADUATES (JANUARY-JUNE 2024)

Lucy Moloney

SoPHIS, Thesis: [Appeals to the Past in Sovereignty Disputes in Wales, Scotland, and England during Edward I's Reign \(1272-1307\)](#)

Supervisors: Dr Kathleen Neel, Prof Guy Geltner

Saskia Moorrees

SoPHIS, Thesis: [Manipulative actions and meaning in Greco-Roman ritual analogy](#)

Supervisors: Dr Andrew Connor, Dr Amma Stevens

Michael Kosinski

SoPHIS, Thesis: [Moral Animals and Agency as a Two-dimensional Capacity](#)

Supervisors: Prof Toby Handfield, Prof Timothy Bayne

Mikkel Moss

SZCSOMP, Thesis: [Towards an Afro Future-Focused Drama Therapeutic Healing](#)

Supervisors: Prof Stacy Holman-Jones, Dr Clare Hall

MONASH POSTGRADUATE PUBLICATION AWARD (PPA)

Round 1 2024

Veronika Nuri Widiastuti

Round 2 2024

Stephanie Slack

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

...the inspiring journeys of our alumni... are testament to what we have always strived for: emboldening the next generation of authentic creators, critical thinkers and attuned global citizens, to solve the problems of today and tomorrow.

Professor Katie Stevenson, Dean of the Faculty of Arts

We are very proud of the 89,500 Monash Arts alumni across 105 countries. Our global community includes The Hon. Daniel Andrews MP, The Hon. Dan Tehan MP, Bill Shorten MP, Sarah Abo, Yalda Hakim, Vance Joy, Professor Sharman Stone, Professor Emeritus Ariel Heryanto, H.E. Mr Arthur Spyrou, H.E. Mr. Saleumxay Kommasith and thousands of influential alumni impacting communities, nations and the world for good.

Meet Dr Noor Huda Ismail

[Dr Noor Huda Ismail](#) is a renowned social entrepreneur, author, filmmaker, activist and journalist. He's a Visiting Fellow at the S. Rajaratnam Institute of International Studies, Nanyang Technological University in Singapore. He is Founder of the Institute for International Peace Building and an Ashoka Fellow and co-founded the award winning community-based website, [Ruangobrol.id](#). His expertise has been recognized in media outlets including The Washington Post, South China Morning Post, The Australian, The Straits Times, Jakarta Post, and he's been interviewed by CNN, BBC, CNA Insider, ABC and SBS. He is a regular NATO speaker, adviser to the EU and United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and Geneva Centre for Security Policy member. Noor holds a PhD in Politics and International Relations from Monash University and a Masters in International Security from St Andrews, Scotland.

In his book, *My Friend the Terrorist*, Huda reveals he was once roommates with a future terrorist, a man who would go on to be one of the Bali bombers. Huda was covering the Bali bombing in 2002, in his role as a journalist for the Washington Post, when he realised that this was the same man that he had attended school with, even shared a room with. This led Huda to write about his experience, and about the possible road his own life could have taken.

Huda then studied in the School of Social Sciences at Monash, on his doctorate about gender and masculinities in Indonesian foreign fighters.

"I wanted to study at Monash to expand my knowledge and engage in knowledge making, to tell a complicated story on the ground, and find intellectual fulfilment in my work," says Huda.

"Monash has a really good reputation in Indonesia, and is thought of as prestigious. It is interdisciplinary and allows for different outputs," he says of his decision to study in Melbourne.

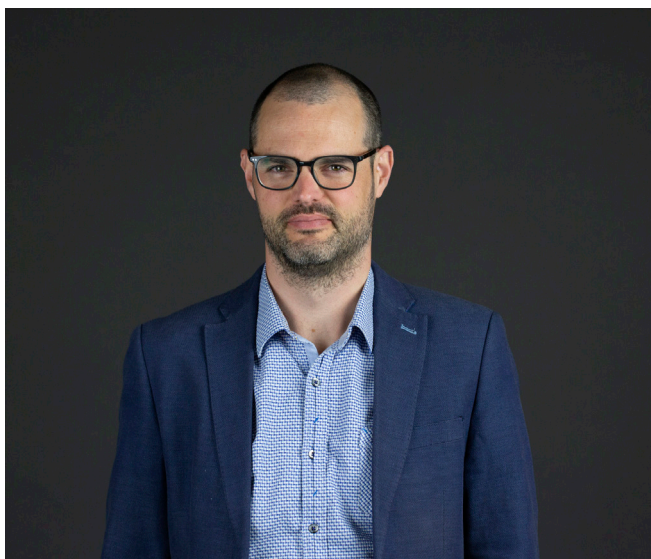


"The group journey with a cohort working on similar issues, the international student community (which involves fortnightly informal discussions on study topics or student life, and the academic and social network" are all Monash draw-cards for Huda.

[Huda's documentary, *Jihad Selfie*](#), was launched in London in 2015. The documentary, which he started working on in 2014, explores the lure of extremist groups for Indonesian youth. Huda also discussed his book *My Friend the Terrorist* at the Frankfurt Book Fair in 2015.

Huda also works as a social activist in his native Indonesia, having started a café in Java, which involved a programme where convicted terrorists are hired to work in the business as a form of rehabilitation.

NEW APPOINTEES



PROFESSOR JACK CORBETT

[Professor Jack Corbett](#) is a leading scholar of the politics and development of the world's smallest states (around 40 countries with populations of less than 1 million), including in the Indo-Pacific. His work seeks to explain why actors create different types of political systems and the impact they then have on development outcomes, state capacity for climate adaptation, and responses to rising geopolitical competition between great powers.

A feature of Professor Corbett's work is versatility, with outputs ranging from sole authored political science monographs to articles produced by large interdisciplinary teams. Examples of the latter include his work leading the governance work package of SARTRAC, an ESRC-funded collaboration between oceanographers, biologists, physical geographers, environmental scientists, and economists, that sought to explain the cause and societal impacts of increased sargassum strandings in the Caribbean Sea and along the West African coast of the tropical Atlantic.

Professor Corbett's work is predominantly qualitative. His primary methods include a mixture of archival research, focus groups, and elite interviews, especially with politicians. One of his books, *Democracy in Small States*, drew on more than 250 interviews with political elites in small states from across Pacific, European, African, Indian Ocean and Caribbean small states. He also writes and teaches on the relevance and applicability of these methods in the social sciences, including for the UK's National Centre for Research Methods and the US-based Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research.

Policy impact has always been central to Professor Corbett's scholarship. In 2022-2023 he was awarded a UK Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology (POST) Parliamentary Academic Fellowship to work with the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association on election observation in the British Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies. In 2021 he co-founded the Resilient and Sustainable Islands Initiative (RESI), a global scientific advisory network run out of the London-based think tank ODI. RESI provided briefing to the UK government in the lead up to CoP26 and has been active at subsequent CoPs. Since 2023 it has been funded by the UK's SIDAR programme to provide policy advice on the crisis facing small island developing states (SIDS) caused by a combination of accelerating climate change, rising geopolitical competition, and economic stagnation. This work has been prominent in the lead up to the UN's SIDS4 conference and the development of the ABAS Declaration for Resilient Prosperity, with Professor Corbett giving a keynote address at the inaugural Small States Future Forum organised for the UN in March 2024.

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

Professor Corbett leads the [School of Social Sciences \(SoSS\)](#) in the Faculty of Arts. SoSS is a research powerhouse of around 100 researchers. It comprises core social science disciplines such as Politics and International Relations; Sociology, Behavioural, and Gender Studies; Human Geography, Anthropology and Development Studies; and Criminology. SoSS is home to several prominent research centres, including the ARC Centre of Excellence for the Elimination of Violence Against Women; the Monash Gender Family Violence Prevention Centre; and the Global Peace and Security Centre. These represent the depth of expertise in SoSS, especially in gender research. Under Professor Corbett's leadership, SoSS is seeking to build additional areas of research strengths contributing to Monash's mission-driven research agenda. Key research clusters include: Community, Culture and Place; Technologies and Digital Societies; Healthy and Thriving Societies; Climate and Sustainability; Institutions, Power and Coercion; and Inclusive Peace and Security.

SoSS produces high-quality disciplinary and interdisciplinary research and translates it into policy impact. This impact facilitates new and deeper collaborations with local communities, state and federal governments, organisations and institutions domestically and internationally. SoSS scholars leverage these partnerships to generate funding opportunities that drive new research. During the last five years, SoSS researchers have written more than 30 books, 700 journal articles, 60 commissioned reports for funding partners, and generated in excess of \$200 million in research income.



SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES, LITERATURES, CULTURES AND LINGUISTICS

Winning's research sits in the broader context of the [School of Languages, Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics \(LLCL\)](#), which houses a rich, multidisciplinary community of HASS academic researchers, who work across Asian (Chinese, Korean, Japanese and Indonesian) and European (French, Italian, Spanish and Latin American, German) languages and cultures, literary studies, creative writing, theatre and performance, translation and interpreting studies, and theoretical and applied linguistics. The diverse research portfolio of the School encompasses a range of complex, cutting-edge critical engagements with language across written, spoken, cultural, political, and embodied forms, and the cultural and geopolitical contexts in which language exists. The connective tissue of the School's research culture is the understanding that human subjectivity, agency, sense of belonging and identity, are all built through language, literature, written expression and cultural objects. LLCL's world-class researchers work internationally, with research partners across Australia, Europe, North America, Asia and the Indo-Pacific and inter-professionally, driving real-world change through research projects with industry partners in the health, education, creative arts, political, and voluntary sectors.

PROFESSOR JO WINNING

[Jo Winning](#) is Professor of Modern Literature & Critical Theory, and Head of the School of Languages, Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics, in the Faculty of Arts at Monash. In 1959, the British chemist and novelist C.P. Snow declared that as disciplines and fields of inquiry, the arts and the sciences had divided off into two cultures, which could neither communicate nor understand each other's practices or bodies of knowledge. In the recent Covid-19 pandemic, the two cultures model was cited by commentators noting that science alone could not address the psychosocial and cultural elements of the global crisis, yet the capabilities of the arts and humanities were slowed to be leveraged in the crisis. As a literary studies and critical theory scholar, Jo Winning's research assertively contests the divide, seeking to create conceptual and practical bridges between the HASS and STEM disciplines, particularly in the field of medical humanities, in which she has worked for over a decade. Prior to joining Monash in July 2023, Winning worked extensively with clinical colleagues from medical schools and Royal Medical Colleges in the UK (Imperial College, St George's, University of London, Royal College of Psychiatrists, Royal College of Physicians), on multiple transdisciplinary research projects and educational courses designed to enrich both humanities and medical education, as well as patient safety and care in clinical practice. Her term for this collaborative transdisciplinary approach is 'applied medical humanities'.

Her current book project, *The Psychic Life of Medicine* explores what happens beneath the surface of the lived experiences of pain and illness, the clinician-patient relationship, the organisational structures of healthcare systems, and the training of healthcare professionals. Medicine, she argues, is underpinned by psychodynamic forces that must be understood in order to deliver the best care. One example of the kinds of insights elicited through this research is her analysis of clinician burnout, which is internationally regarded as a global epidemic affecting many healthcare systems. Winning's analysis of the clinical encounter between clinician and patient demonstrates that the processes of objectification commonly understood to define patient experience, also operate in the other direction; the clinician's body, as the deliverer of diagnosis and care, is itself objectified by patients, the wider healthcare system, and society at large. Translating this kind of psychodynamic understanding into policy and practice has deep benefits for real-life clinical practice, and clinician wellbeing. In its 2023 report 'Employee Health and Wellbeing in Victorian Public Hospitals', the Office of the Victorian Auditor-General found that 1 in 4 hospital workers experienced high to severe stress in their workplaces, and the average cost of psychological injury claims made by burnout health professionals rose by 45% between 2019 and 2022. In this context, Winning is working with clinical colleagues in the Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences at Monash to build humanities training for healthcare professionals across Victoria. Both the transdisciplinary process of co-constructing this training, as well as capturing the voices and stories of the clinicians who undertake it, will form the basis of a series of research papers.



MONASH CLIMATE CHANGE COMMUNICATION RESEARCH HUB

Since 2018, the [Monash Climate Change Communication Research Hub \(MCCCRH\)](#) has delivered research, content, knowledge, and ideas – building climate knowledge with the aim of accelerating climate solutions. The MCCCRH partners with communities, industries, and governments to investigate how critical information can be made accessible and engaging for diverse audiences. Its research is designed to help communities and policy makers make good decisions and negotiate a shared future. Through an innovative model of partnering with the media industry, it has delivered accessible and engaging content on climate change for diverse audiences, many of whom aren't normally exposed to factual climate information. This content has reached millions of Australians in regional and metropolitan areas, with partners including News Corp and all major television networks. A new partnership with Southern Cross Austereo, which has Australia's largest commercial radio footprint through its Triple M and Hit FM stations has just commenced. The Hub also plans to work with social media influencers in Indonesia and Malaysia.

All programs are underpinned by evaluation and research, analysing how exposure to climate communications across a variety of platforms can influence public and policy practices and attitudes, impacting beliefs and associated behaviours related to climate change. Increasingly this approach and methods are shared and tested through peer-reviewed research publications, with a research training program comprising PhD projects and postdocs in development. The MCCCRH's three sites, in Indonesia, Malaysia and Australia, work together – for example, on projects connecting journalists and experts in and to one of the world's most crucial regions for climate impacts and the energy transition, and analysing climate discourses across the region, importantly on social media. At all sites, the Hub draws on Monash's world-leading expertise in climate-related research, including climate science, health, education, engineering, creative arts, and design.

PROFESSOR ELIZABETH LESTER

[Professor Libby Lester](#) is the Professor (Research) and Director of the Monash Climate Change Communications Hub (MCCCRH), joining Monash from the University of Tasmania, where she was the UNESCO Chair in Communication, Environment and Heritage, and Director of the Institute for Social Change.

Libby is known internationally for research on environmental communications. She has published seven books and more than one hundred journal articles, chapters and reports. She has been a Visiting Fellow at Oxford University's Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, and at the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies in Tokyo.

Libby's work is focused on understanding and promoting the role of communications, media and data in good decision making about shared social and environmental futures. Recent research explores social licence, population wellbeing and the potential of data platforms to support decision-making in the context of climate change and the massive shifts required to achieve net zero over the next decade.

At Monash, Libby will build on recent Australian Research Council-funded research which asks how communities, industries and politics respond and adapt in the face of climate change and environmental degradation, and expand networks of communications, travel and trade within the Australia-Asia region. MCCCRH's presence on Monash's Indonesian and Malaysian campuses provides an unparalleled opportunity to further this research.

Libby is working with industry partners and colleagues at Monash to develop a program related to the energy transition and its short-term and long-term impacts on communities and their social and environmental values. The aim is to support immediate and longer-term decisions by providing useful, evidence-based and timely information about environments and communities as they undergo change and stress.

Communication between industry, government and communities is also at the centre of a current ARC-funded project, with Monash's Faculty of Arts Deputy Dean of Research, Brett Hutchins. This research investigates media sport's role as a communications platform for environmental issues, and has investigated sporting arenas as diverse as the Olympics and World Cup to the Under-8s Triabunna Roos.

For more than a decade, Libby worked as a journalist, reporting on social, political and environmental issues for Australian newspapers and magazines, including *The Age* and *Good Weekend*, and continues to write and produce journalism. Recent productions include radio documentaries for ABC's Radio National.



DR COLETTE MORTREUX

[Dr Colette Mortreux](#) is a human geographer whose research focuses on climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction and migration. She is interested in how environmental change impacts community development, and how communities make decisions in the context of uncertain environmental futures. Her research has examined adaptation pathways for coral atoll communities, household capacity and preparedness for bushfire risk in Australia, perceptions of flood risk and sea level rise planning in Australia, as well as migration and resettlement decision-making in coastal Ghana, Bangladesh, and India.

Her research provides an evidence base for fair and effective policy making and service provision, with a focus on equitable outcomes for those most marginalised in communities.



DR MASAKI SHIBATA

[Dr Masaki Shibata](#) teaches Japanese language and researches in the fields of beach safety and linguistics. His most recent publication showed how Australian university students (mis)interpret beach safety signage. This study demonstrated that over 20% of international students misunderstood the message, “always swim between the flags” believing that the red and yellow safety flags area is only for those who are swimming, and those who don’t or can’t swim stay outside the flags. As his previous study shows, this interpretation was found among 30% of visitors in Bondi Beach, Sydney.

His work on beach signs was featured in the [Sydney Morning Herald](#), published on 28th December 2023.

Due to the cultural and linguistic issues involved in beach safety messages, his current project, in collaboration with Surf Life Saving Australia, aims to educate CALD communities on beach safety through the English learning material. His team developed a reading exercise material for the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) incorporating beach safety information. His team is currently testing how the material users improve their beach safety knowledge after using this material.

He is also a volunteer surf lifesaver at Tamarama beach, Sydney, and has extensive experience of teaching swimming in Japan, the U.S., and Australia. Using his own surf lifesaving experience and knowledge of beach safety research, he also held a beach safety workshop for international students at Macquarie University and RMIT in 2023, and at Monash University in 2024. He was invited to speak at the Multicultural Water Safety Forum.



PROFESSOR ANDREA RIGHI

[Professor Andrea Righi](#) is a cultural theorist who works at the intersection of continental theory, gender studies, digitality, psychoanalysis, political thought, and modern and contemporary Italian literature. He is author of *The Other Side of the Digital: The Sacrificial Economy of New Media* (Minnesota, 2021), *Italian Reactionary Thought and Critical Theory: An Inquiry into Savage Modernities* (Palgrave, 2015) and *Biopolitics and Social Change in Italy: From Gramsci to Pasolini to Negri* (Palgrave, 2011). He coedited, with Cesare Casarino, *Another Mother: Diotima and the Symbolic Order of Italian Feminism* (Minnesota, 2018).

His current research focuses on climate change and environmental humanities. Specifically, Righi's investigation seeks to understand the subtle, dispersed, and pervasive mechanisms that hinder urgent action against the climate crisis. These mechanisms are rooted in the symbolic infrastructure of the Western tradition and are often tied to theories of salvation (i.e., soteriology) that distort accountability and reinforce modes of subjectification such as repression, impersonal profit imperatives, and various forms of denial. By combining elements from philosophy, post-Lacanian feminist theory, Sci-fi literature, theology, and economics, his project endeavours to propose alternative, ecologically viable models. This approach aims to generate new knowledge and develop interpretative tools to address pressing global challenges like the climate crisis. Professor Righi has initiated collaborations with the University of Bologna, Monash Prato, Warwick University, the European University Institute in Florence, and Cornell University.



DR MATTHEW MAYCOCK

[Dr Matthew Maycock](#), is a senior lecturer in Criminology at Monash University and was previously a Baxter Fellow in Community Education at the University of Dundee. Matthew has worked within the criminal justice system in Scotland as a Learning and Development Researcher at the Scottish Prison Service. Matthew is an anthropologist by training, undertook his PhD at the University of East Anglia (UK) and leads on an ongoing longitudinal study analysing modern slavery and freedom in Nepal through the theoretical lens of masculinity.

Matthew has consistently worked on gender issues with critical studies on men and masculinity being a particular focus. Matthew is the co-editor of four edited collections, all focusing on aspects of life in prison, and he sits on the editorial board of three journals as well as being an editor of the *International Journal of Prisoner Health*.



DR MICHELLE LIU

[Michelle Liu](#) completed her PhD in philosophy at Oxford in 2019, followed by a two-year lectureship at the University of Hertfordshire and a Leverhulme Early Career Fellowship. She is the current secretary of Australasian Society for Philosophy and Psychology. Michelle works on various topics in philosophy of mind, philosophy of language, and aesthetics.

Her thesis was on the nature of consciousness. It provides a diagnosis of the intuition of dualism according to which consciousness seems to be fundamentally non-physical. Michelle's recent work has engaged closely with empirical research in psychology and linguistics. Her publications won various prizes, including the 2021 Annual Antwerp Philosophical Psychology Essay Prize and the 2023 Finnish Society of Aesthetics Article of the Year. One of her research interests is the linguistic phenomenon of polysemy (words with multiple related senses). Michelle's work has demonstrated how a thorough investigation of the phenomenon can help understand a wide range of perplexing philosophical debates. Her work on the formations and representations of different senses of polysemous words also has important implications with respect to diagnosing the rise and persistence of verbal disputes in public discourse. Michelle also has a key research interest in the role of mental imagery in language processing. In her work, she has argued that mental imagery is responsible for a certain kind of oddness that language users can easily detect when a word is used in different senses simultaneously (e.g. 'The chicken is chirpy and delicious'; 'The school caught fire while visiting the museum'). On poetry, she has argued that mental imagery is not just an effect generated by poetry; it also serves as an efficient means for understanding and appreciating poetic language. Outside issues in philosophy of mind and language, Michelle also worked on the nature of musical expressiveness and the relationship between music and abstract painting.



ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR EMMA BRIANT

[Dr Emma L Briant](#) is Associate Professor of News and Political Communication, School of Media, Film and Journalism. She is a British political communication scholar and is a leading expert on propaganda and information warfare in an age of mass-surveillance. Dr. Briant is particularly interested in collaborative research focused on understanding and regulating the actors, industries and organisations behind influence operations and disinformation.

A central thread of Dr. Briant's research also explores the changing ethics of information warfare for democracies responding to contemporary threats in the context of emerging technologies. She has conducted research into deceptive media campaigns targeting vulnerable communities. Her two books (*Bad News for Refugees*, 2013 & *Propaganda and Counter-terrorism: Strategies for Global Change*, 2015) are highly regarded publications. Dr. Briant has a new book coming out in 2024, *The Routledge Handbook on the Influence Industry* (co-edited with Vian Bakir) and is working on her fourth, *Propaganda Machine*. Dr. Briant uses a range of qualitative and quantitative research methods, including digital ethnography, interviews, OSINT, and content analysis.

Dr. Briant prioritises public impact and often collaborates with filmmakers and media organisations, and was senior researcher on Oscar-shortlisted documentary film, *The Great Hack*. In 2018 her testimony, drawing on long standing research, was central in exposing the Cambridge Analytica scandal concerning Facebook data misuse by the now-notorious Trump and Brexit campaign firm. Dr. Briant's expertise has shaped key policy debates and international inquiries including the UN, US Congress, UK Parliament, Canadian Parliament and European Parliament. Her research has informed politicians, governments, media organisations, NGO's and Big Tech companies on threats posed by the opaque digital influence industry, disinformation and contemporary influence operations.



DR PENNI RUSSON

[Dr Penni Russon](#) is a critically acclaimed and award-winning novelist of several books for children and young people published in Australia and overseas. Dr Russon has a long association with the book industry, having worked as an editor or author with Allen & Unwin, Penguin Random House, and ABC Books in Australia, and Greenwillow, Delacorte, and Storybird.com in the US, as well as industry bodies and cultural organisations such as Small Press Network, Australian Society of Authors, Writer's Victoria and The Wheeler Centre.

In her research, Dr Russon combines literary analysis, creative writing, and qualitative methods to explore cultural representations of young people and mental illness in literature and screen culture. She is particularly interested in the intersection of climate change, the ongoing effects of colonialism and mental health in young people, arguing that literary fiction, graphic novels, video games, and other narrative representations can reveal the complex interplay of individual, social and structural stresses and vulnerabilities that contribute to and exacerbate mental ill-health, as well as imagining social and structural changes that can promote recovery and positive wellbeing. From 2013–2021, Dr Russon applied her knowledge of writing and editing youth literature in the book industry to the problem of engagement in online youth mental health, contributing to the co-design of a bespoke suite of mental health services with Orygen Digital called MOST (Moderated Online Social Therapy). During her time at Orygen Digital she co-authored over 100 comics for young people modelling therapy skills. The comics project under Dr Russon's leadership generated income for a number of creative professionals, and brought creative expertise and new methodologies and approaches into online youth mental health service design, to complement and extend the existing evidence-based approach. Since 2021, MOST has been delivered in all Victorian youth mental health services and has provided more than 8000 young Victorians with access to critically important mental health care. Trials have been run in the Netherlands and Canada, and roll outs continue to occur across Australia. As an experienced cross-disciplinary researcher working with the health sciences, information technology and visual arts and design, Dr Russon maintains that creative arts can extend the impact of scientific research in communities and generate new knowledge.



DR EARVIN CABALQUINTO

[Dr Earvin Charles B. Cabalquinto](#) ARC DECRA Research Fellow (2023 – 2026) and Senior Lecturer, MFJ. His research agenda is driven by critically exploring the dynamics and impacts of digital inclusion and exclusion among migrants and their networks who navigate an increasingly digital and global society. His ARC DECRA

deploys multi-sited ethnography and visual methods to examine the ways older migrants in Victoria and their support networks in and outside of Australia experience and negotiate the consequences of the digital divide. His recent project investigates the role of socio-digital migration infrastructures in mediating the mobility aspirations, decisions and outcomes of temporary migrants in Australia. These projects aim to generate insights and inform culturally tailored policies and interventions designed for harnessing an inclusive and safe digital space among migrants, their networks, migrant organisations, and relevant stakeholders in Australia.

He has an established working relationship with the Philippine Consulate in Melbourne, the Australian Filipino Community Services, Inc., Filipino Community Council of Victoria Inc., Pilipino Elderly Association of South East Region, the Young Generation Filipino Senior Citizens Club of the South-East, Filipino Australian Friendship Association of Geelong Inc), and the Filipino Nursing Diaspora Network. He is the author of "(Im)mobile Homes: Family Life at a Distance in the Age of Mobile Media" (Oxford University Press) and Philippine Digital Cultures: Brokerage Dynamics on YouTube" (Amsterdam University Press). He is currently co-editing the pioneering Handbook of Filipino Diaspora (Routledge) and sits in the editorial board of the International Journal of Cultural Studies, Convergence: The International Journal of Research into New Media Technologies and the Journal of Global Ageing.



PROFESSOR ROBYN BARTEL

[Professor Robyn Bartel](#) possesses boundless curiosity about most areas of knowledge and is particularly inspired by the fascinating collaborations between human and non-human which enliven and enrich our world. Robyn's research benefits from her unique background in law and geography which enables her to bring an appreciation of both people and place to address accelerating environmental crises through generating improvements in environmental law and policy, management and governance. Regulatory failure is a common lament for environmental law and both people and place aspects are often overlooked. Robyn's work demonstrates that greater appreciation of geographic and social factors and variability, the attitudes and behaviours of regulated communities, improved understanding of place and of place attachment and human interrelatedness with the environment, are essential for improving regulatory performance and achieving better outcomes. Interventions that are insensitive to place impede on-ground actions and undermine the legitimacy of the law, thereby compromising compliance. Robyn has extended these findings as salient to mainstream research approaches also, and has been reinventing and repurposing the case study methodology as place-based, in accordance with more pluralist relational-material epistemologies, axiologies and ontologies.

Recent projects in collaboration with multi- (and post-) disciplinary teams of scientists, sociologists, criminologists, peace studies scholars, archaeologists, educators, psychologists and lawyers have focused on water conservation, wilderness protection and reserve management. Agriculture is the focus of her current discovery project with leading property law academic Nicole Graham looking at how greater sustainability may be achieved through exposing the deficiencies of generic laws and sub-optimal legal and regulatory practices. Informed by her collaborative place-based research and a Masters in Higher Education Robyn is also committed to research-informed and place-based education and to amplifying academic generosity and collegiality within the University sector and beyond.

Currently serving as Deputy Dean (Education) in the Faculty of Arts, Robyn supports staff, students and the wider University community in their shared purpose of generating and sharing knowledge for the public good. Previous roles include President of the Institute of Australian Geographers, inaugural convenor of Legal Geography Study Group of the Institute of Australian Geographers, and Chair of Academic Board.



DR ROHAN HOWITT

[Dr Rohan Howitt](#) is a global and environmental historian with research expertise in the interconnected histories of Australia, Antarctica, the subantarctic islands, and the Southern Ocean. His first book, *The Southern Frontier: Australia, Antarctica, and Empire in the Southern Ocean World* (forthcoming 2025), uncovers the origins of the Australian Antarctic Territory, revealing how popular ideas about the Antarctic shaped Australia's political efforts to claim 42% of the Antarctic continent.

Rohan's current research is concerned with integrating the Southern Ocean and its islands into wider accounts of global history. One aspect of this research focuses on the history of 'phantom islands', exploring how oceanic and atmospheric phenomena contributed to false sightings of land in the Antarctic and how innovations in ocean sciences enabled the removal of these phantom islands from the map. Another branch of this research uses archival records to reconstruct the distribution of icebergs in the Southern Ocean over time and analyse the role of icebergs in experiences of maritime travel to and from Australia from the 18th to the 20th century. Other research interests include the history of attempts to colonise and develop Southern Ocean islands, histories of conservation and environmental restoration in the Antarctic and subantarctic, animal histories (especially of marine animals and invasive species), environmental histories of migration, and the historical relationship between imperialism and environmental change.

Rohan's research draws on the methods of environmental history, global history, and history of knowledge to reconstruct stories of environmental change and of interactions between humans and the natural world over time. This research employs rigorous analysis of archival sources to reconstruct environmental phenomena such as patterns of iceberg distribution, animal adaptations to environmental change, and the environmental effects of extractive industries.

His research contributes to several important interdisciplinary research agendas, including the environmental humanities and blue humanities that respectively aim to centre human entanglements with the environment broadly and water specifically. It is also part of an emerging direction in Australian history writing that uses the activities of Australian politics, people, and institutions beyond the limits of the Australian continent to reinterpret the history of the nation. In doing so, this research aims to contextualise and explain Australia's ongoing geopolitical and scientific interests in the Antarctic and the Southern Ocean.



PROFESSOR KYLLIE CRIPPS

[Professor Kyllie Cripps](#) is a Palawa woman and Director of Monash's Indigenous Studies Centre. She is also a Chief Investigator and a Workstream Lead in the [ARC Centre for Excellence for the Elimination of Violence Against Women](#). She is one of Australia's leading researchers on Indigenous family violence, sexual assault and child abuse. Leading major grants she has contributed to the field through empirical studies that have defined violence on Indigenous terms, identified factors contributing to violence, and examined the access and availability of services in the aftermath of violence. Her work has been critical in identifying gaps and opportunities to create sustainable solutions to support policy and practice change.

Kyllie's research and engagement on solutions draws on the strength of her interdisciplinary experience and the value of using an intersectional lens for appreciating the context of violence. She works with colleagues across a range of disciplines to maximise opportunities for supporting research and community collaborations that build and sustain solutions in responding to violence. In the 'doing of research' Kyllie is focussed on creating safe places for community members to talk about topics often shrouded in silence. Hearing their stories. Working with the community to identify areas for change and the solutions for change is always a privilege.

Her work has focussed on providing communities with resources to support their work locally, networking with individuals and community organisations and connecting them to other parts of Australia and the world to create a network of care and safety that can be a source of learning and empowerment for all. Kyllie is experienced in working with governments, professional organisations, and community organisations.

Kyllie is committed to mentoring and supporting the next generation of Indigenous and non Indigenous professionals, academics and scholars so that they too, may be inspired and motivated by the grounded experiences of working with and for the community.

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