



UNIVERSITY
OF WOLLONGONG
AUSTRALIA

Faculty of the Arts,
Social Sciences and
Humanities

Research Highlights
Report 2020





Acknowledgment of Country

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands on which the University of Wollongong is situated. We pay our respects to Aboriginal elders past, present and emerging, who are the knowledge holders and teachers.

We acknowledge their continued spiritual and cultural connection to Country. As we share knowledge, teaching, learning and research within this university we also pay respect to the knowledge embedded forever within the Aboriginal custodianship of Country.

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Vale Mark McLelland (1966–2020)

Colleagues in ASSH were sad to farewell Emeritus Professor Mark McLelland, whom we lost to cancer in November 2020.

Mark was Professor of Gender and Sexuality Studies in the School of Humanities and Social Inquiry and was awarded the title of Emeritus Professor in 2020.

His books include *Male Homosexuality in Modern Japan*; *Queer Japan from the Pacific War to the Internet Age*; *Love, Sex and Democracy in Japan during the American Occupation*; *The Routledge Handbook of Sexuality Studies in East Asia and the Routledge Companion to Global Internet Histories*.

His research was funded by an impressive series of Australian Research Council Discovery Projects, including a Future Fellowship. He served on the Australian Research Council's College of Experts from 2015 to 2018. He was elected as a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences of Australia in 2019.

His contributions to research leadership at UOW included significant participation in the Excellence in Research in Australia (ERA) and Research Engagement and Impact (REI) submissions.

Mark is remembered as a generous colleague who was committed to fostering early career academics at UOW, in Australia, and overseas. He was a founding member of the AsiaPacificQueer collective, which provided a supportive environment in the Asia-Pacific region through pioneering conferences, workshops and edited collections.



Welcome



Research drives the shape of things to come. As a new faculty that brings together the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities I am conscious that our collective efforts in research do have a profound effect on people and the economy.

We are in SHAPE – Social Sciences, Humanities and the Arts for people and the economy.

The research we conduct extends from the discovery of knowledge, expression and creation, understanding our world and sources of social injustice, exploring the everyday decisions we make, the environment we live in, the institutions that mediate the way we live, learn and play and the connectedness of people and culture.

Academics within our Schools of the Arts, English and Media, Education, Geography and Sustainable Communities, Health and Society, Humanities and Social Inquiry, Liberal Arts, Psychology and Early Start and their collaborators conduct high quality research

that is rigorous in its methods, relevant and useful to contemporary problems and issues in society.

I invite you to read all about the work conducted in 2020, in this report.

Executive Dean

PROFESSOR GLENN SALKELD

Introduction



The Faculty of the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (ASSH) has a desire to think, examine, express and create, to act collectively for positive social change. Our faculty purpose is to provide the foundation and inspiration for living and to work towards a better life for everyone, particularly those who are most vulnerable in society.

It would be remiss of me not to acknowledge the challenges of 2020 for our research portfolio. COVID-19 has placed additional pressures on many of our academics to produce quality research while at the same time renegotiating research agendas, balancing increased teaching commitments, managing additional caring responsibilities with separation from loved ones, and striving for balance as our homes also become our workplaces.

Our researchers across our seven schools are committed to producing research and creative works that are both high-quality and timely to enable us to enhance knowledge, inform policy and practice, and contribute to broader social agendas. We proudly host Early Start as a UOW Research Entity, 6 Faculty Research Centres and 13 Research Groups, Networks and Initiatives. Academics in our faculty work to pursue theoretical, methodological and

practical applications in response to critical social issues as they lead, debate, and deliver on the pressing issues.

Our student numbers enrolled in Higher Degree Research degrees continues to grow – in 2020 we have supported the candidature of 425 students and have graduated 36 students who have made important contributions to the many different disciplines they represent and the traditional and non-traditional outputs they have produced. Thank you to each and every academic and HDR student in ASSH for their sustained efforts and commitment to creating the supportive research environment we have in ASSH. Thanks also to the Heads of Research and Research Leaders who support the research activities in their schools. And of course, my sincere thanks to our Faculty Research team who provide such terrific support to me as ADR and our whole research community.

Associate Dean Research
PROFESSOR LISA KERVIN

Impact Stories

Social catalysts influencing communities and society

Researchers in the Faculty of the Arts, Social Science and Humanities (ASSH) have a proven track record in conducting research that affects the communities and society in which we live.

Our researchers strive to be social catalysts through the conduct of rigorous research that influences all levels of community to create environments where making healthy, sustainable and equitable decisions are easy.

We aim to empower individuals through evidence-based approaches as we equip people with knowledge and skills to be change makers. There are numerous examples of impact across our schools. Included in this report are examples of the impact some of our researchers are making.

**JUST BECAUSE I CAN'T SPEAK
DOESN'T MEAN I'VE GOT
NOTHING TO SAY**

DR SHOSHANA DREYFUS



Dr Shoshana (Shooshi) Dreyfus is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Humanities and Social Enquiry. As a (systemic functional) linguist, Shoshana's research covers a wide range areas, including language disorder, language and power, social media texts, disciplinary knowledges and academic discourse, disability studies (including family members and carers of people with disabilities) and different applications and aspects of systemic functional linguistic theory.

Shoshana founded and is also the co-convenor of UOW's Global Challenges funded Disability Research Network (DRN). This network has brought together UOW scholars researching in the disability space and is forging links between UOW, people living with disability, the disability sector, Wollongong Council and scholars at other institutions. The DRN hosts seminars at UOW on disability related topics.

Recently, Dr Dreyfus and her community partners from Wollongong City Council and The Disability Trust won a UOW Community Engagement Scheme grant for their project 'Giving a voice to the Voiceless'. The overarching goal of the research is to inform the design and build of the Illawarra's (and perhaps Australia's) first all-ages, all-abilities playground. This project includes the opinions and voices of people with severe intellectual disability who are functionally nonverbal (FNV) and or have sensory processing disorders (SPD) and deploys nonverbal communication methodologies in order to be able to conduct stakeholder engagement with them.

People with FNV/SPD are rarely consulted in program development because of their inability to communicate. Dr Dreyfus' work breaks new ground by putting people with severe disability at the centre of the project. Around 30 young adults with severe intellectual disability will be consulted as part of the project.

Dr Dreyfus explains: "we will observe them — we will take them to state-of-the-art playgrounds and watch them playing on the equipment. We're going to see how often they go back to equipment, which ones they avoid, and show them photos of different playground equipment to see how they respond."

The project also draws on the NSW government's 'Everyone Can Play' policy, which has seen inclusive innovations in traditional children's playgrounds such as wheelchair-friendly trampolines, and takes it one step further - creating a playground where anyone can play, regardless of their size, age or intellectual or physical ability. Additionally, a toolkit will be produced enabling future consultations with FNV/SPD people so that other groups such as councils, non-government

organisations and individuals can use it to consult with this most marginalised group. This project lays the foundation for future projects and the way consultation is done with people with severe intellectual disability to ensure they remain central to the design of projects specifically addressing their needs and to ensure their opinions and voices are heard.

**ABORIGINAL WOMEN AND
CULTURAL BURNING IN
NSW AUSTRALIA**

VANESSA CAVANAGH



Vanessa Cavanagh is a Bundjalung and Wonnarua Aboriginal woman from NSW, Australia. Vanessa is also an Associate Lecturer and PhD candidate in the School of Geography and Sustainable Communities and Australian Centre for Culture, Environment, Society and Space (ACCESS).

During the Black Summer bushfires in 2019/20, Australia suffered through unprecedented wildfires. The fires burnt across 24million hectares, decimating wildlife, forests, agriculture and infrastructure with homes and lives lost. Amid the crisis, people sought for solutions to better address fire management. Attention turned to Aboriginal fire knowledge and practice. For Aboriginal people, who are the longest continuing culture on Earth, fire is an integral feature of Aboriginal culture, and is founded on a healthy respectful relationship of coexistence within the natural world. This is sometimes referred to as caring for Country.

Aboriginal people successfully cared for Country for thousands of generations prior to European colonisation. Indigenous knowledge and systems of caring for Country are now increasingly being acknowledged and valued around the globe. Aboriginal people strive to maintain and reinvigorate Aboriginal fire knowledge and practice. This self-determination is responding to cultural responsibilities to care for Country, and responding to developments in natural hazard reduction.

Prior to colonisation, Indigenous women were just as engaged in cultural land management as were Indigenous men. In some places, women are the knowledge keepers and hold cultural knowledge around fire. The revival of cultural burning in NSW, however, has exposed the intersectional challenges that Aboriginal women experience, and the impacts this has on their full participation in caring for Country roles and activities. In response to the underrepresentation of Aboriginal women in land and fire management, Vanessa's PhD project focuses on Aboriginal women's engagement in cultural burning practices in NSW. In particular, the research seeks to promote the voices of Aboriginal women, and better understand how and why they want to participate, and what challenges prevent them from participating.

Drawing on Indigenous research methodologies

and community protocols, the research process itself aims to empower Aboriginal women to participate in caring for Country activities (where appropriate), and to strengthen Indigenous leadership. As part of this project, Vanessa has been able to promote an Indigenous-led approach to fire management, as well as contribute to strengthening Aboriginal cultural burning communities, and their ability to influence fire management policy, and policy implementation at multiple levels. For example, through many conversations with Aboriginal women, she was able to share, represent and submit their voices as evidence to the Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements in June 2020. She also joined a hearing of the NSW Bushfire Inquiry. Her participation resulted in multiple interviews, publications, presentations and community consultation requests from local media, national and international universities and community organisations.

Indigenous land management is critical to addressing catastrophic bushfires and ongoing caring for Country initiatives, as well as creating positive social outcomes in Indigenous communities. This research continues to advocate for Aboriginal voices, in particular, those of women, so they can inform fire management policy and its implementation.

PODCASTING IN SOCIAL WORK: REAL WORLD IMPACT

DR MIM FOX



Dr Mim Fox is a Senior Lecturer of Social Work in the School of Health and Society. Dr Fox's research is in the articulation and translation of social work practice knowledge. This research agenda is pursued in the fields of digital technologies and social work practice in the healthcare sector.

Social work education is increasingly calling on social work academics to embrace online technologies and remote teaching. In turn, students are increasingly requesting flexible learning environments from their lecturers in order to more effectively cater to how undergraduate students consume practical and educational knowledge. Despite the changing nature of how social work is delivered, many academics still utilise traditional means to provide practical knowledge. Based on Mim's research and experience as a Social Worker, she felt things could be done better and reach more people by doing things differently. In 2018, Dr Fox and her colleagues launched the Social Work Stories podcast.

The Social Work Stories podcast is presented as a case study in which social work knowledge is co-constructed by the academic, the practitioner, and the social work student. Weekly episodes focus on a broad range of topics in Social Work exploring issues such as domestic violence, aged care, working in natural disasters, supporting families through loss and profound grief, to name a few. It became evident early on that social work students from around the world were listening and learning from these stories.

"I'm a social work student doing my first placement during the COVID-19 period. While I was still connected with my supervisor via phone and Zoom, I was struggling with the lack of connection and felt quite alone while still dealing with clients remotely... By listening to other social workers, this has further defined the role of a social worker and the challenges involved. Furthermore, your debriefs at the end of the podcast have highlighted gaps in practice and education. This has encouraged me to seek further professional development to ensure I graduate with useful skills and knowledge to apply to practice" – Juanita, a social work student.

The podcast grounds social work learning in adult education principles, while operating in a 'glocalisation' type practice, local ideas shared with a global reach with great success. Since its launch in September 2018 the podcast has been downloaded 200,000 times, with an average of 10,000 downloads per month. The podcast has listeners from 96 countries around the world, from the United States, to Britain, to Germany. The success Social Work Stories has had in reaching such a diverse and wide range of listeners illustrates the effectiveness of the content created, and the method behind its delivery. In doing so, the Social Work Stories podcast has developed a new form of virtual community within the international Social Work network, one that informs and connects people across the world through the telling of practice stories that appeal to a variety of people.

SUGAR VS THE REEF? HOW CAN SOCIALLY ENGAGED ART CONTRIBUTE IN COMPLEX ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SITUATIONS?

DR LUCAS IHLEIM



Dr Lucas Ihlein is Senior Lecturer in the School of The Arts, English and Media. He uses a creative-practice based research methodology (including blogging, printmaking, public events, and scholarly publication) to explore complex environmental management issues, with a particular focus on Australian agriculture.

Sugar vs the Reef? was a creative arts research project by Dr Ihlein and PhD student Ms Kim Williams. Funded through Ihlein's ARC DECRA Research Fellowship (2016-19), the research asked how Socially Engaged Art (SEA) can contribute in situations of complex environmental management. The major case study investigated the Queensland sugarcane industry and its relationship with the health of the Great Barrier Reef.

It is important to note that creative arts-based research differs from research in science, agronomy, or sociology, by creating specific events, exhibitions or performances in response to the unfolding site-specific learning. In this case the research centred upon the sugarcane farming community in the city of Mackay, with a special focus on the members of Central Queensland Soil Health Systems - a collective

of farmers attempting to transform their own practices for broad ecological benefit.

As a research method, SEA operates in the public sphere beyond academia. Sugar vs the Reef? generated several key events, performances and exhibitions, including Sunset Symphony in the Sunflowers (2017) on a sugarcane farm in Mackay; Watershed Land Art Project (2018-19) at Mackay Regional Botanic Gardens; and Sugar vs the Reef? (2018) at Artspace Mackay.

The impact of the project as a whole is demonstrated in the following ways:

- Developing new community partnerships
The project drew together diverse communities that do not usually interact with each other, and created new partnerships between farming, environmental organisations, and cultural groups;
- Demonstrating efficacy of farming methods
The project strongly demonstrated the ecological benefits of soil health and regenerative agriculture, using novel modes of engagement on farms and at a botanic gardens site;
- Analysis of barriers to behaviour change
The project critically appraised the environmental practices of sugarcane farmers in a high-profile public exhibition;
- Modelling methods of slow engagement in art practice
The project models a method of Socially-Engaged Art practice that engages slowly and respectfully with a set of communities and sites over several years.

Central to the project's impact beyond academia was the deployment of SEA to recognise the creative innovations of this community of farmers, by bringing their work to public attention at the Mackay Regional Botanic Gardens and at Artspace Mackay. As a result of these high-profile public events that had thousands of attendees, the project created a framework for productive partnerships to develop between sugarcane farmers and the local Yuwibara Traditional Owners, the South Sea Islander community, and the non-farming public.

Outcomes of the project include invitations to the artists and the extended network of farmers involved in the project to present to state and federal MPs, agricultural extension officers, and parliament, as well as international land art specialists in the USA. The project also catalysed myriad related exhibitions, public forums and publications with diverse collaborators in regional NSW, Melbourne, and Queensland.

MOVEMBER, MENTAL HEALTH, AND AHEAD OF THE GAME: A TALE OF GLOBAL IMPACT

DR STEWART VELLA



Dr Stewart Vella is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Psychology at UOW, a Movember Foundation Men's Health Partner, and a recent National Heart Foundation Postdoctoral Research Fellow. Dr Vella is a developmental sport psychologist with specific expertise in the relationships between sport participation and multiple indicators of health during childhood and adolescence.

In 2014, Movember granted \$2 million to UOW and Dr Vella to develop and evaluate the 'Ahead of the Game' program. The project aimed to reduce the suicide rate among adolescent males, provide strong social and community networks, and reduce the stigma associated with mental health problems. This is important as half of all mental health problems have their onset before the age of 14 years, so giving young men the skills to cope with these challenges is essential. Dr Vella notes that "When you deliver mental health programs through sport, specifically mental health literacy programs for adolescents, resilience programs for adolescents, mental health literacy programs for their parents and a coach program, then kids who participate have lower psychological distress, higher well-being, higher resilience, and higher mental health literacy."

Following the implementation of the fully developed program in 2016, the results were clear, "Our research has shown that teenage boys who undergo just two hours of sport-based mental health and resilience training demonstrated a better understanding of what mental health is, had greater intentions to help others who have a mental health problem and were more confident about seeking help themselves if they needed to" Dr Vella states.

Since its development, the 'Ahead of the game' program has been delivered amongst community sports clubs and some of Australia's top sporting organisations such as Cricket Australia, the AFL, Basketball Australia, Swimming Australia, Football Federation Australia, and Tennis Australia. Movember has since committed over \$1m more in the translation of the program worldwide. Most recently, the program was announced by the Duke of Sussex, Prince Harry as the official mental fitness program of the Rugby League World Cup 2021 and will roll out in every host city across the UK to over 800 community rugby league players, 8000 parents, and over 800 coaches. This is in addition to the dissemination efforts across Canada, Australia and the UK. The strength of this partnership was recently recognised, with Dr Stewart Vella and Senior Professor Frank Deane being awarded the UOW VC's Outstanding Achievement in Research Partnership and Impact Award (2020).

Funding Success 2020

In 2020 the Faculty of the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities was awarded over \$10 million in external funding for their research projects. In addition, with the recent ARC announcements the Faculty has been awarded a further \$2 million for projects with ASSH leads in 2021.

NHMRC

- Senior Professor Tony Okely was awarded an Investigator Grant worth \$2,000,000 for the project “Understanding and promoting physical activity and reducing sedentary behaviour in young children”
- Professor Chao Deng and Senior Professor Rodney Croft were awarded an Ideas Grant worth \$1,264,200 for the project “Exposures of mobile phone radiofrequency electromagnetic energy in juveniles: effects on brain development and behaviours”
- Professor Stacy Carter, Dr Christopher Degeling, Professor Annette Braunack-Mayer, Associate Professor Lei Wang were awarded a Ideas Grant worth \$823,476 for the project “The algorithm will see you now: ethical, legal and social implications of adopting machine learning systems for diagnosis and screening”
- Associate Professor Steven Howard was awarded an Ideas Grant worth \$554,388 for the project “Development and evaluation of a novel early language assessment tool to identify vulnerable children who would benefit from referral to Allied Health pathways”

ARC

- Dr Jennifer Atchison was awarded a Future Fellowship worth \$934,048 for the project “Transforming invasive plant management in northern Australia”
- Dr Sonia Graham was awarded a Discovery Early Career Researcher Award (DECRA) worth \$421,744 for the project “Catalysing collective action for effective weed management”
- Professor Fiona Probyn-Rapsey was awarded a Special Research Initiatives worth \$230,277 for the project “The cultural impacts of introduced animals in Australia”
- Senior Professor Christopher Gibson, Dr Chantel Carr, Dr Andrew Warren, Dr Sonia Graham were awarded a Discovery Projects worth \$376,874 for the project “Continuity and change in the Australian industrial landscape”
- Associate Professor Phil Orchard was awarded a Discovery Projects worth \$181,755 for the

project “Creating Accountability: Improving Responses to Forced Displacement Crimes”

- Dr Dylan Cliff and Associate Professor Janette Green were awarded a Discovery Projects worth \$388,333 for the project “Identifying optimal daily levels of movement behaviours in early childhood”
- Senior Professor Pauline McGuirk was awarded a a Discovery project worth \$320,556 for the project “Innovating urban governance: practices for enhanced urban futures”

OTHER LEADS

- Professor Sue Bennett and Professor Lisa Kervin Chief Investigators on the “Australian Centre for the Digital Child” led by Professor Susan Danby at the Queensland University of Technology
- Dr Claire Lowrie Chief Investigator on the ARC Discovery project “Ayahs and Amahs: Transcolonial Servants in Australia and Britain 1780-1945” led by Professor Victoria Haskins at the University of Newcastle

ARC SUCCESSES LEADING INTO 2021

UOW LEADS

- Associate Professor Stephen Palmisano on a Discovery Project worth \$199,000 for the project “Unleashing the potential of VR: reducing sickness in head-mounted displays”
- Dr Stewart Vella and Senior Professor Tony Okely on a Discovery Project worth \$357,409 for the project “Playing it Safe: Psychological Safety and Mental Health for Community Sport.”
- Associate Professor Shirley Agostinho; Dr Kellie Buckley-Walker and Professor Sue Bennett on a Discovery Project worth \$481,720 for the project “Investigating professional learning lives in the digital evolution of work”
- Associate Professor Natascha Klocker leading a on a Linkage Project worth \$1,115,069 for the project “Settling well: a longitudinal study of refugees in regional Australia.”

- Dr Chantel Carr on a Discovery Early Career Researcher Award (DECRA) worth \$452,140 for the project “Locating the household in post-carbon regional economies”

OTHER LEADS

- Associate Professor Sarah Howard Chief Investigator on the Discovery project “Building on rural knowledges to unlock the potential of rural students” led by Professor Karl Maton at the University of Sydney
- Dr Jennifer Atchison Chief Investigator on the Discovery project “Understanding contested human-plant geographies for urban greening success” led by Dr Catherine Phillips at the University of Melbourne
- Summer Finlay Chief Investigator on the Discovery project “Improving young people’s online safety when talking about suicide” led by Associate Professor Jo Robinson at the University of Melbourne
- Associate Professor Sharon Tindall-Ford Chief Investigator on the Discovery project “Improving middle leading practices in schools to enhance student learning” led by Professor Peter Grootenboer at the University of Griffith
- Professor Jason Payne Chief Investigator on the Linkage Project “Post-separation co-parenting apps: Can they help families avoid conflict?” led by Professor Bruce Smyth at Australian National University

UOW GRANTS

- Dr Jennifer Atchison, Associate Professor Kerrylee Rogers and Dr Emma Asbridge were awarded a Fundação de Amparo à Pesquisa do Estado de São Paulo (FAPESP)/ UOW Sprint Grant for the project “Improving social and environmental adaptation to rapid environmental change and governance of the coastal zone. Addressing the science and policy gap in the ecosystem services field in Brazil and Australia (ECOSCIPO)”
- Dr Michelle Peterie was awarded a Vice Chancellor’s Postdoctoral Research Fellowship Scheme for the project “Bureaucratic Violence and the Weaponisation of Emotion”
- Dr Myrto Mavilidi was awarded a Vice Chancellor’s Postdoctoral Research Fellowship Scheme for the project “Integrated Task-Relevant Physical Activity as a Healthy Way to Promote Children’s Learning: Balancing Physical-and Learning-Task Complexity”

NSW GOVERNMENT

- Dr Michelle Townsend, Dr Luise Lago, Professor Brin Grenyer, Professor Nagesh Pai and Dr David Alcorn were awarded a NSW Department of Education Strategic Research Grant worth \$174,788 for the project “Early Intervention: Knowledge and resources to improve educational outcomes for students requiring multi agency support for mental health and well-being.
- Dr Monique Francois, Professor Barbara Meyer, Professor Glenn Salkeld, Meredith Kennedy, Brooke Russell, Courtney Chang, Isabelle Jardine, were awarded a NSW Health Cardiovascular Early-Mid Career Researcher Grant worth \$436,326 for the project “Lifestyle Treatment of Cardiovascular Disease in patients with Type 2 Diabetes”
- Associate Professor Nicholas Gill was awarded a NSW Government Department of Industry NSW Research Attraction and Acceleration Program Grant for the project “Managing Wild and Weedy Australia across Boundaries and Disciplines”
- Professor Sarah O’Shea Chief Investigator on the NSW Department of Education and Training Regional Transitions to University Grant project “Re-inventing the ‘gap year’: Establishing new forms of supportive communications between universities, regional students and parents” led by Dr Samantha McMahan at The University of Sydney
- Associate Professor Honglin Chen was awarded a NSW Department of Education Strategic Research Grant worth \$327,641 for the project “Developing transferable skills: Improving writing outcomes in the secondary school”
- Associate Professor Amanda Webster was awarded a NSW Department of Education Strategic Research Grant worth \$395,816 for the project “Developing and Evaluating an Online Decision-Making Hub to Assist Schools to Make Adjustments for Students with Special Needs in Mainstream Classrooms”

NATIONAL BREAST CANCER FOUNDATION (NBCF)

- Professor Stacy Carter Chief Investigator on the National Breast Cancer Foundation (NBCF) Investigator Initiated Research Scheme project “Translational program for artificial intelligence (AI) in breast cancer screening: Comparative detection, early detection of interval cancers, economic evaluation and women’s perspectives” led by Professor Luke Marinovich at Curtin University

OTHER EXTERNAL GRANTS

- Professor Marc de Rosnay and Leanne Gibbs were awarded a Ian Potter Foundation Education grant worth \$190,000 for the project “Early Learning at home together (ELHT)”
- Dr Laura Robinson, Associate Professor Peter Kelly, Dr Briony Larance (Chief Investigator) and Senior Professor Frank Deane were awarded Community Mental Health, Drug & Alcohol Research Network (CMHDARN) Innovation and Evaluation Grant worth \$56,000 for the project “Assessing mental health in young people attending residential substance use treatment programs: trialling an online approach”
- Associate Professor Stephen Palmisano was awarded a York University Vision: Science to Applications (VISTA) Distinguished Visiting Scholar for the project “Consequences of Sensory Conflict in Virtual Reality”
- Jane Whitelaw, Jennifer Hines and Linda Apthorpe were awarded an AIOH Foundation Project Grant for the project “Hazard reduction for our volunteer firefighters: are P2s effective against bushfire smoke”
- Associate Professor Vida Bliokas, Luise Dr Lago, Dr Alexander Hains, Senior Professor Brin Grenyer and Dr Rebecca Sng were awarded a Suicide Prevention Australia Innovation Research Grant for the project “Investigating gender differences in a suicide prevention aftercare program: How can we improve outcomes for all?”
- Associate Professor Lynne Keevers was awarded a MRFF Coronavirus Response Grant worth \$425,803 for the project “Narratives of Recovery - Practices supporting community mentalhealth and well being post bush fires and COVID 19”

UOW GLOBAL CHALLENGES (2019/2020)

- David Kampers and Associate Professor Peter Kelly as a part of a Global Challenges team were awarded funding for the project “Caring for Community - Keystone Development”
- Dr Jane Carey as a part of a Global Challenges team was awarded funding for the project “Caring for the Incarcerated”
- Associate Professor Pauline Jones as a part of a Global Challenges team was awarded funding for the project “Environmental Sensors”
- Dr Leah Gibbs and Dr Lucas Ihlein as a part of a Global Challenges team was awarded funding for the project “Mapping the Islands”

- Dr Dana Perlman as a part of a Global Challenges team was awarded funding for the project “Therapeutic Recovery++”
- Dr Nicole Cook as a part of a Global Challenges team was awarded funding for the project “Western City Urbanisation”
- Dr Christopher Degeling, Associate Professor Mitchell Byrne and Dr Sebastien Miellet as a part of a Global Challenges team was awarded funding for the project “Antimicrobial Resistance”
- Dr Susan Ballard, Christopher Brennan-Horley and Dr Joshua Lobb as a part of a Global Challenges team was awarded funding for the project “Blue Futures: Managing and planning for coastal change”
- Dr Mark Allen and Dr Robyn Coman as a part of a Global Challenges team was awarded funding for the project “A Smart Shoe System Enabling Sedentary Older Adults to Walk More Steps and Walk Safely”
- Dr Patrick McGivern as a part of a Global Challenges team was awarded funding for the project “Combating Neurodegenerative Disease”
- Dr Shahnaz Bakand as a part of a Global Challenges team was awarded funding for the project “New Generation Sunscreen”
- Dr Joanne Law, Dr Agnieszka Golda and Aaron Burton as a part of a Global Challenges team was awarded funding for the project “Slow Textiles”
- Dr Karen Tonge (Chief Investigator), Dr Grant Ellmers, Dr Jane Warren and Associate Professor Roselyn Dixon as a part of a Global Challenges team was awarded funding for the project “SMILE”
- Associate Professor Stacy Carter, Dr Tam Ha, Dr Christopher Degeling, Professor Annette Braunack-Mayer, Dr Jacqueline Street and Dr Patti Shih as a part of a Global Challenges team was awarded funding for the project “The ethical, legal and social implications (ELSI) of using artificial intelligence (AI) in health and social care”
- Dr Dana Perlman (Chief Investigator) as a part of a Global Challenges team was awarded funding for the project “Vital Signs Monitor”

Faculty Research Centres

CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR THE DIGITAL CHILD (ACDC)

In 2019, the Australian Research Council (ARC) Centre for the Digital Child was announced, with the ARC committing \$34.9 million with an additional \$32.3 million in cash and in-kind support from partner organisations and institutes.

Led by the University of Queensland and Co-Directed by the Faculty of the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities' Professor Sue Bennett, the UOW team includes Professor Lisa Kervin (Research Lead), Professor Paul Chandler (Advisory Committee), Dylan Cliff and Steven Howard (CI's), Jessica Mantei, Catherine Neilsen-Hewett and Irina Verenikina (AI's).

The vision of the Centre is for Australian children to be healthy, educated and connected.

The Centre integrates expertise from UOW in areas of child psychology, education, and digital and social connectedness, to meet Australia's ongoing challenges of supporting young children growing up in a rapidly changing digital age.

In addition to being Deputy Director of the Centre, Sue will also co-lead one of the major strands of the Centre, the Connected Child. Lisa will co-lead another major strands of research of the Centre, the Educated Child, which enables UOW to leverage strong connections with Early Start as they establish the UOW Children's Technology Play Space and operate within the Discovery Space, regional Early Start Engagement Centres and industry partners. The centre will be the platform for FOR code (3904) for ERA 2023.

AUSTRALIAN CENTRE FOR CANNABINOID CLINICAL AND RESEARCH EXCELLENCE (ACRE)

ACRE's vision is to generate world class research in medicinal cannabis, establishing Australia as a world leader in appropriately balanced implementation of medicinal cannabinoid uptake into specialist and primary health care settings. We adapt to the rapidly changing landscape for medicinal cannabis in Australia and internationally by initiating projects informed by clinical needs as they present at the coalface and informing national research and health policy around the therapeutic use of cannabinoids.

CLINICAL EVIDENCE

At UOW our focus is on establishing an evidence base from clinical and preclinical research. The pandemic presented a challenge for human clinical trials; a trial of cannabidiol (CBD) in early stage dementia, our primary work at UOW, is now planned to commence in early 2021. Two trials of medicinal cannabis in cancer and one in inflammatory bowel disease have progressed slowly. We have established a Dementia and Medicinal Cannabis Community of Practice and developed a suite of Cannabis Medicines Prescribing Guidance documents for use by Australian medical professionals, available on our website.

CAPACITY BUILDING

A priority within our Centre has been training and mentoring the next generation of world-class researchers. This year Jessica Mills was appointed as an ACRE-funded postdoctoral research fellow in the School of Psychology. Jess brings expertise in depression and diet, and will lead our CBD dementia trial supported by a new PhD student. Two further PhD students have commenced studies on CBD effects in preclinical models of dementia and on the entourage effect of cannabis plant compounds.

INTERNATIONALISATION

Our 2020 Annual Scientific Meeting was held virtually including symposia from international collaborators. Professor Solowij was invited to consult the US Food and Drug Administration and to a pharmacovigilance committee for Canopy Growth – the world's largest cannabis company based in Canada, to monitor safety and side effects of their cannabinoid products worldwide.

AUSTRALIAN CENTRE FOR ELECTROMAGNETIC BIOEFFECTS RESEARCH (ACEBR)

Mobile telecommunications, particularly in the post-COVID-19 world, are an integral part of how we live. Be it to enable us to work remotely, better-manage emergencies such as bushfires or to engage safely in our social world, we all rely on the benefits of telecommunications. However, as such benefits need evaluation in light of potential harms that the radiofrequency electromagnetic fields (RF-EMFs) underpinning the technology may bring, the community needs strong research and research communication.

ASSH has hosted ACEBR, an NHMRC-funded \$5M Centre of Research Excellence, since 2014. ACEBR is a collaboration between ASSH (Croft, Loughran, Herbert) and AIIM (Tomaskovic-Crook) scientists, as well as Australian and international academics covering a range of disciplines. ACEBR has also developed a strong collaboration with SMAH, which has resulted in a \$1.2M NHMRC Project Grant (Deng, Croft) to determine potential age-related effects of RF-EMF.

ACEBR conducts research ranging from mechanistic to health risk assessment and communication, and plays key roles in the International Commission on Non-ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP), the World Health Organisation and Bioelectromagnetics Society. These include determining whether RF-EMF differentially affects subtypes of people, the mechanisms responsible for RF-EMF effects on neural function, the role of alarmist media in generating symptoms 'attributed to' RF-EMF, and whether RF-EMF causes cancer.

Ensuring that science directly contributes to the world is the reason for ACEBR's existence, be it through reducing exposure to RF-EMF, or allowing exposure to maximise benefits. Accordingly, ACEBR engages with the community both directly (hosting community meetings and providing substantial media input) and indirectly (parliamentary inquiries, contributions to Australian RF-EMF Standards and a range of governmental agencies). Importantly, ACEBR Director Croft also chairs ICNIRP and led the latest international RF-EMF health Standard (May 2020). That represents the first revision since 1998 and has been adopted by the Australian government.

AUSTRALIAN CENTRE FOR CULTURE, ENVIRONMENT, SOCIETY AND SPACE (ACCESS)

In 2020, ACCESS key research initiatives came to fruition across all three of our research platforms: Reworking Cities and Economies; Living Environmental Change; and Everyday Sustainabilities.

FUNDING SUCCESSES

Dr Jennifer Atchison won an ARC Future Fellowship on 'Transforming invasive plant management in northern Australia'.

Two ARC Discovery projects were funded, both of which build ACCESS' international links. Pauline McGuirk will lead the *Innovating urban governance: practices for enhanced urban futures* project, with co-PIs from the universities of Sydney and Auckland. Chris Gibson will lead the *Continuity and change in the Australian industrial landscape* project, with Chantel Carr, Andrew Warren and co-PIs from Macquarie and Concordia University.

Sonia Graham joined us as an ARC DECRA Fellow, commencing research on [Catalysing collective action for effective weed management](#). Dr Graham is also part of a CSIRO team funded by the Department of Agriculture, the GRDC and CRDC for research on *Area-wide-management for cropping systems weeds*.



Led by Chantel Carr, a new external research partnership with the Federal Department of Science, Industry, Energy and Resources was established. The team brings Chantel Carr, Elyse Stanes and Pauline McGuirk together with engineers Dan Daly and Matt Daly from UOW's SBRC to work on the energy efficiency and maintenance practices in mid-tier commercial office buildings.

COMMUNITY AND INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT

Vanessa Cavanagh gave evidence both at the Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements and at the NSW Bushfire Inquiry.

In June, ACCESS hosted an expert panel on Post-Pandemic Urbanism that attracted an audience of over 150 participants and over [1,000 listens to the subsequent podcast](#).

In February, ACCESS co-hosted the Australian Academy of Science 2020 Fenner Conference on the Environment. The conference nurtured participant engagement across 18 organisations nationally to devise enhanced approaches to Australian weed management.

ACCESS launched its ["No Place Like..." Podcast series](#) where over 1,400 downloads were recorded in the first 4 months.

AUSTRALIAN CENTRE FOR HEALTH ENGAGEMENT, EVIDENCE AND VALUES (ACHEEV)

The Australian Centre for Health Engagement, Evidence and Values ([ACHEEV](#)) is a Faculty Research Centre in the School of Health and Society. ACHEEV's mission is to make decisions about contested health issues more inclusive and democratic, using innovative deliberative and values-based methods. Since its establishment in 2019, ACHEEV staff and students have worked together in five themes:

1. Deliberation, engagement and values in health: methodology and practice
2. Responding to public health risks, pandemics and emergencies
3. Working with health data and technologies
4. Pursuing health justice and equity
5. Reducing overdiagnosis, overtreatment and low value healthcare

Across 2019-20, three senior academics were chief investigators on external grants totalling >\$9.2m, including NHMRC-funded projects on [artificial intelligence for screening and diagnosis](#), designing aged care with Indigenous communities, and [Wiser Healthcare](#). The [Population Health Research Network](#) supported ACHEEV to investigate whether public data should be used for private research and development. ACHEEV- led funded projects on tuberculosis elimination in migrant communities, provided social science leadership within the [Wollongong Antimicrobial Resistance Alliance](#), and we supported successful applications to the Medical Research Futures Fund and the Australian Research Council.

ACHEEV's small team grew fast: we welcomed three new grant-funded postdoctoral staff, three new PhD scholars, and three new Visiting Fellows. We also published more than 75 papers in leading international journals in public health, social science, bioethics and health services research.

ACHEEV, like most, has spent 2020 focused on COVID-19, making contributions via research, assistance with policy making and research funding allocation, and [media commentary](#) on ethical and social issues. The Centre has adapted to online research, but looks forward to a time when, once again, we can bring diverse Australians together in person to hear evidence, deliberate, and make recommendations on difficult-to-solve problems in health policy and practice.

CENTRE FOR HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY PRACTICE AND RESEARCH (CHPPR)

The Centre for Health Psychology Practice and Research (CHPPR) was established in 2020 and will focus on improving the physical and mental health of people in our community through community-based and collaborative research with impact. It draws together high performing Senior, Mid, Early Career Researchers and HDR students who conduct highly engaged and applied research that is focused on our most vulnerable members of the community.

CHPPR is broadly focused on the health domains that make the most significant impacts on the community. This includes mental illness and suicide prevention, substance dependence, cardiovascular disease, cancer, antimicrobial resistance, medication adherence, nutrition and behaviour, and diabetes. It is also an international leader in the scientific evaluation of mobile phone technologies and radiation on health. This work has incredible impact and broad influence on international policy. We work across a diverse range of government, non-government, and community health settings.

Likewise, our team have been highly successful in developing and disseminating mental health and wellbeing interventions across professional and grassroots sporting organisations within Australia and Internationally (e.g. Canada, New Zealand, United Kingdom, Italy, Brazil, Rugby League World Cup). A major focus of our research is promoting effective strategies to communicate health information and to promote access to health services for people in the community.

CENTRE FOR COLONIAL AND SETTLER STUDIES (CASS)

The Centre for Colonial and Settler Studies (CASS) promotes critical inquiry into the history, theoretical framing, and contemporary legacies of colonialism on a global scale. CASS is an interdisciplinary centre that brings together researchers in history, political science, cultural studies and literary criticism.

CASS began as a research network in 2015 when the former the Faculty of Law, Humanities and the Arts launched a program of focused investment in areas of research strength. It became a Centre in 2018 in recognition of achievements in research collaboration, HDR mentoring, publications and grants. As part of the Faculty of the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities, a key goal of the centre is to expand our membership base.

2020 RESEARCH ACHIEVEMENTS

At the beginning of 2020, CASS was poised for another year of research and outreach. Our plans included 'Let Me Tell You A Story About Israel', a performance by Marcelo Svirsky, and a meet-and-greet session for our post-graduate students. Julia Martínez had been invited to speak at Cornell University and Columbia University.

Despite postponed plans due to the pandemic, CASS members have continued to pursue exciting research projects. Sharon Crozier De Rosa has taken up a National Library of Australia Fellowship; André Brett was awarded an Australian Academy of the Humanities Travelling Fellowship; Simon Ville and Claire Lowrie began work on new ARC Discovery Grants; and Lisa Slater was awarded two UOW Global Challenges grants as part of collaborative research teams.

The research successes of our post-graduate students include Tamara Cooper being awarded her doctorate in September and Renzhe Zhang passing his Research Proposal Review in October.

The CASS work-in-progress (WIP) group has continued throughout 2020. Following feedback at those sessions, two members had articles accepted in top-ranking international journals. In addition, Jane Carey's co-edited special issue of *Postcolonial Studies* was released.

CENTRE FOR CRITICAL CREATIVE PRACTICE (C3P)

SUPPORT AND COLLABORATION

In 2020 C3P relaunched its website and established a series of monthly online seminars enabling staff and HDR researchers to present works-in-progress, share newly published work and to discuss future research initiatives and collaborations. Seminars features scholars and artists from across Australia, including David Carlin (RMIT); Bianca Hester (UNSW) and author Sarah Turnbull.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The NiCHE team (Narrative informed Codesign in Health and Education) lead by Kate Bowles with Jo Stirling and several postgraduate students, are contributing to two projects for the Illawarra and Shoalhaven Local Health District.

'Anticipating and Imagining' is a stream of the Blue Futures Global Challenges initiative lead by Dr Joshua Lobb focusing on community relationships with the coast. C3P members of the team include: Agnieszka Golda, Jo Stirling and Jen Saunders.

DEVELOPING PUBLIC PROFILE

Lucas Ihlein and Kim Williams presented their creative research project *Plastic-free Biennale* at NIRIN, the 2020 Biennale of Sydney. This involved a public installation at Cockatoo Island, the production of multiple media outputs including songs, videos, posters and blogs, and a consultancy with the Biennale organisation.

PUBLICATIONS

Published in 2019, *100 Atmospheres: Studies in Scale and Wonder* is a multi-authored, collaboratively written book exploring the ways that creative practice might enable people to think differently about climate change. It brought together 13 writers from an array of disciplines.

Catherine McKinnon's novel *Storyland* (Harper Collins 2017) was shortlisted for several awards including the 2018 Miles Franklin Literary Award, the 2018 Barbara Jefferis Award, the 2018 Voss Literary Prize. In 2020 Catherine was commissioned by Merrigong Theatre Company, to develop *Storyland* into a play.

The Flight of Birds (Sydney University Press, 2019), a 'novel in twelve stories' by Joshua Lobb was shortlisted for the 2019 Readings Prize for New Australian Fiction and the 2020 Mascara Literary Review Avant Garde Awards for Best Fiction.

Online launches in 2020 included *Media Audiences: Is Anybody Watching?* by Sue Turnbull, Key Concerns in Media Studies and *Blue Ecologies: a Special Issue* of the literary journal *Island*, featuring C3P writers Shady Cosgrove, Christine Howe, Luke Johnson, Joshua Lobb and Catherine McKinnon and others.

CENTRE FOR CRITICAL HUMAN RIGHTS RESEARCH (CCHRR)

The Centre for Critical Human Rights Research (CCHRR) was established in 2015. It brings together humanities and social science researchers interested in exploring the meaning of human rights and human security for individuals, institutions, communities and regions.

Core themes of the centre are the intellectual history of human rights, the history of the institutions of global governance, the role of cultural representation in imagining alternative futures, and the culture and practices of human rights advocacy.

Our work focuses on local case studies and sites, with a recognition of their regional and global embeddedness, and a commitment to collaborative, interdisciplinary and community-engaged research.

Members of the Centre have received Australian Research Council Discovery Projects, Linkage Projects, Future Fellowships and Postdoctoral Fellowships. We also welcome postgraduate students working on human rights research.

CENTRE FOR OCCUPATIONAL, PUBLIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH IN SAFETY & HEALTH (COPERSH)

COPERSH was established as a research centre in the School of Health and Society in August 2020. The vision of the Centre is to address new, emerging and complex health and safety problems in occupational, public and environmental settings through collaborative research with government, university and industry partners.

To achieve this vision, COPERSH aims to:

- Partner with industry, university and government to conduct high-quality leading-edge research that addresses current and future risks to occupational, public and environmental health and safety.
- Build research capacity in the occupational, public and environmental health and safety workforce to lead generational change in managing new and complex issues.
- Produce high quality employable graduates who can think in imaginative and creative ways to address occupational, public and environmental health and safety issues.

The current research partners of COPERSH share our vision of a world-class research centre that builds research capacity in Occupational Health and Safety (OHS). The initial focus of the Research Centre is an integrated approach to OHS research in the mining & tunnelling sector, with a staged progression to a broad based OHS Research Centre over several years.

COPERSH is based on a model that not only provides research outcomes consistent to our partner's needs but embraces a global mobility program for research students that exposes them to different cultures and regulatory environments, achieved by formalising current industry and university links.

Currently, COPERSH has four industry-based research projects in progress, which embrace collaboration with seven industry partners from three different countries. All projects have projected outcomes that will lead to a significant reduction in adverse health effects in workers, not only in the mining and tunnelling sector but also more diverse workplaces.

Faculty Research Groups, Networks and Initiatives

Research Groups

CENTRE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND IMPACT (CHERII)

Convenor: Associate Professor Shirley Agostinho

[CHERII](#) is the intellectual home for Higher Education research focused on making a positive impact on student engagement and learning and the teaching experiences of academics. We are a group of leading researchers in education and over 15 PhD students whose research is contributing to an evidence base to inform improvement, decision making and advancement in the higher education sector.

HIGHLIGHTS WITH NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL REACH AND ENGAGEMENT FROM 2020 INCLUDES

- Associate Professor Nielsen and Dr Georgiou hosted the annual international conference for the Australasian Science Education Research Association ([ASERA 2020](#)) and pioneered its delivery in an online format
- Associate Professor Agostinho ran an online workshop at MEITAL 2020; an international conference focused on teaching and learning technologies in Higher Education
- CHERII hosted an online seminar about theory in action in Higher Education research
- Associate Professor Shirley Agostinho, Professor Sue Bennett and Associate Professor Sharon Tindall-Ford were successful in being awarded ARC funding across two Discovery projects.

COGNITIVE BASIS OF ATYPICAL BEHAVIOUR (CBAB)

Convenor: Associate Professor Steven Roodenrys

Human behaviour is most often described in terms of motivations, drives, desires, but all human behaviour is also underpinned by cognitive processes involving memory, reasoning and planning, to name a few. We are interested in examining the contribution that variation in cognitive processes might make in explaining behaviour. In particular, behaviour that contributes to difficulties in getting along with other people, or withdrawal from other people.

This year we have had several journal articles published and two PhD submissions which have included studies of how the control of attention to social images is related to anxiety, and how unusual semantic processes might relate to personality factors. We conduct research on how differences in the processing of facial emotional expressions affect social functioning and how loneliness affects cognitive processing of social information, like emotional expressions, and biases in interpreting accidental behaviour as deliberate.

[Visit Cognitive Basis of Atypical Behaviour \(CBAB\)](#)

INTERDISCIPLINARY DISCOURSE ANALYSIS IN EDUCATION, ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES (IDEAS)

Convenors: Associate Professor Pauline Jones and Dr Shoshana Dreyfus

IDEAS is an active and vibrant research group that brings together researchers from across UOW who focus on language, linguistics and semiotics, and the application of these in a diversity of contexts. We foster collaborative team-based research between scholars at all stages of their research careers. We tap into and develop emerging synergies which investigate leading issues such as inequality at all levels of education from preschool to tertiary, disability advocacy and language disorders, communication in medical contexts, language studies and policy, sustainability and 'new' media. We contribute to new theoretical and methodological developments across linguistics, literacy and multimodality.

Activities held in 2019-20 included;

- Big IDEAS – research seminars by local, national and international scholars
- Developing IDEAS – 'how to' workshops to design, incubate and undertake research projects
- Presenting big IDEAS – conferences and symposia
- Student IDEAS – HDR presentations and discussion groups

POWERLAB: THE POPULATION WELLBEING AND ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH LAB

Director: Professor Thomas Astell-Burt

Professor Astell-Burt is a chief investigator on an international team (UNSW, UOW, UQ, CSIRO and UK MRC) awarded \$1.45M by NHMRC-UKRI to research green space quality and health equity. Our research on green space and health won Parks and Leisure Australia's National Research Award. Across 2019-20, PowerLab members authored 38 publications, including 3 articles in [The Conversation](#) to reach mainstream audiences.

One paper on green space and mental health attracted coverage from >20 news outlets (Altmetric score 805). PowerLab PhD students led 12 published papers. Professor Astell-Burt presented at the 'UOW Big Ideas Festival' and conferences and webinars run by NSW-DPIE, ARUP, TREENET, IACA, Western Sydney Diabetes, and Healthy Cities Illawarra.

Faysal Shuvo started a postdoc in Melbourne following completion of his PhD and Tashi Dendup will finalise his PhD subject to minor revisions. Members engaged regularly online with 20 journal clubs during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Early Start Research Groups

FOOD AND MOVEMENT RESEARCH

Convenors: Associate Professor Bridget Kelly and Dr Rachel Jones

Full Members: Associate Professor Bridget Kelly, Dr Rachel Jones, Dr Megan Hammersley, Senior Professor Tony Okely, Dr Anne-Maree Parrish, Dr Rebecca Stanley, Dr Karen Tonge, Dr Katharina Kariippanon, Dr Ellie Taylor, Dr Myrto Mavilidi

In 2020, FAM members have contributed to policy-building at a global level, including through SUNRISE, an international study of movement behaviours in the early years; development and pilot testing the World Health Organisation (WHO) Global Standards for Healthy Eating and Movement Behaviours in ECEC settings; and completion of a systematic literature review on food labelling for the WHO to inform global guidelines on nutrition labelling. At a local and community level, the theme has contributed to the co-development of physical activity professional development, participated in expert interviews for Early Start, and completed formative work towards a play-based intervention on healthy eating and movement behaviours in the Discovery Space, including two systematic literature reviews and qualitative research with parents and Discovery Space staff. Senior Professor Tony Okely received the Vice-Chancellor's Award for Researcher of the Year.



FAMILY, LEARNING AND INTERACTION (FLINT)

Convenor: Associate Professor Jane Herbert

Full Members: Professor Jacqueline Barnes, Dr Amy Bird, Mark Donovan, Dr Elisabeth Duursma, Dr Judith Pickard

Fathers play a significant and unique role in children’s development, but they are often left out of family research. In 2020, FLINT directly examined father-child interactions in everyday activities and in our shifting society. In our recently published research on shared book-reading, we observed fathers providing explanations of words and pictures to their 3-year-olds, and relating book content to their child’s own world knowledge. These important interactions promote early literacy, language, and thinking skills. During the pandemic, we examined the impact of lockdown on fathers’ attitudes to, and involvement in, parenting. Although fathers reported appreciating spending more time with family, individual experiences were variable (*“Helping my kids with their education has been fantastic”; “I felt like a failure at work and a failure as a father”*). Our research uniquely captured fathers’ voices and promoted discussions about the benefits and challenges that come from balancing work and caring responsibilities.



PLAY, PEDAGOGY AND CURRICULUM IN CONTEMPORARY THEORY AND PRACTICE

Convenor: Professor Lisa Kervin

Full Members: Associate Professor Irina Verenikina, Associate Professor Jessica Mantei, Associate Professor Sarah Howard, Professor Iram Siraj, Dr Lyn Cronin, Leanne Gibbs (+ 8 Associate members and 11 HDR students)

As a group, we acknowledge the importance of play for development, understanding how learning spaces are organised to respond to curriculum and the prevalence of digital media in children’s lives.

In 2020 key research activities for our group include:

- Planning, delivery and analysis of Virtual Excursions from the Discovery Space to Early

- Start Engagement Centres (ESECs).
- Intergenerational Playgroups and the development of a resource text (as part of the “Play Connections” component of Global Challenge Keystone led by Associate Professor Lyn Phillipson)
- Identifying characteristics for quality adult-child interactions during digital experiences by connecting with early years educators.
- Surveying primary educators to capture the remote and blended learning experiences as a result of COVID-19 to understand how educators were supported and potential areas for future professional learning.
- Support for the Early Start Discovery Space Longitudinal Study

[Visit Play, Pedagogy and Curriculum in Contemporary Theory and Practice](#)



SELF REGULATION AND COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

Convenor: Associate Professor Steven Howard

Full Members: Dr Amy Chan, Professor Paul Chandler, Professor Marc de Rosnay, Professor Stuart Johnstone, Professor Edward C Melhuish, Associate Professor Cathrine Neilsen-Hewett, Professor Fred Paas, Dr Myrto Mavilidi

The evidence is in: early self-regulation abilities robustly predict long-term trajectories of health, wealth and criminality into adulthood. Children with good early self-regulation are more likely to have better academic outcomes in school and, in later life, better physical, mental and financial health. Research also shows self-regulation can be improved, and children who become more self-regulated in childhood tend to achieve better outcomes in adulthood. However, to leverage these insights to improve outcomes for children, families and communities, we need to understand more about the environments, experiences and other factors that influence the development of self-regulation and related abilities/outcomes. The SRCD research group aims to tackle this challenge. We do this using our breadth of expertise (from Education and Psychology), research methods (qualitative and quantitative: from case studies to longitudinal and intervention studies), and with a focus on community engagement and impact.

Faculty Research Networks

ANIMAL STUDIES RESEARCH NETWORK

Convenor: Professor Fiona Probyn-Rapsey

Animal studies critically examines human/animal relations, with a view of making positive changes in the lives and wellbeing of non-human animals. Researchers at UOW are engaged in various interdisciplinary projects with a particular focus on introduced animals, and these have been a feature of public talks in *Entanglements: Humans, Animals, Environments* – co-convened with the Wollongong Art Gallery and ACCESS in 2019.

UOW Researchers are fortunate to work within the orbit of the Animal Studies Journal (ASJ), established by Melissa Boyde in 2012 and housed at UOW’s open access repository Research Online. ASJ has published 207 papers with over 100,000 downloads across 156 countries, and is regularly cited as a major contributor to the field’s development. After the success of the ‘Animaladies II’ conference held in 2018, we had planned to host the next Australasian Animal Studies Association bi-ennial conference in 2021 (cancelled due to COVID-19). The strength of the network led to ‘near miss’ funding for the NSW Environment Trust Grant in 2019 (‘Illawarra Ecologies of Care’) and a successful ARC SRI application on the ‘Cultural Impacts of Introduced Animals’ in 2020 (CI Probyn-Rapsey).



FEMINIST RESEARCH NETWORK

Convenors: Dr Rachel Loney-Howes (ASSH), Dr Sarah Ailwood (BAL) and Amy Boyle as HDR co-convenor (ASSH)

The [Feminist Research Network \(FRN\)](#) supports staff and postgraduate students whose work is influenced or inspired by diverse feminisms. Researchers from a wide range of disciplines are involved, with a primary cohort in the Faculty of Business and Law (BAL) and Faculty of the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (ASSH) at all stages of career development. Activities include research workshops, public lectures, a reading group, social events, mentoring and community engagement. The network supports feminist practice

and approaches the university itself as a site of intervention.

In 2020, FRN hosted two work-in-progress workshops that profiled a diverse range of research currently being conducted by staff and students. We also hosted a roundtable discussion on power and precarity in higher education, a virtual writing retreat, and a “Pub Launch” to celebrate the research achievements of network members during the COVID-19 pandemic.



NARRATIVE PRACTICES RESEARCH NETWORK

Convenor: Dr Glenda Satne

Narrative Practice Research Network (NPRN) explores the role that narrative practices play in a range of practices that are key to the development and enhancement of human life. NPRN research systematically investigates the role of narrative understanding in the following three fields of research:

- Social Engagement and Collective Identity, to shed light into the nature of narrative practices and parts they play in social engagement, collective action and identity
- Well-Being and Mental Health, to investigate the stated theoretical assumptions of approaches and therapies that use narratives, to empower individuals and groups
- Scientific Explanation and Understanding, to focus on the role of narratives in explaining and understanding the world at large, primarily by investigating the roles that narrative practices play in understanding scientific explanation

Activities and events of the network can be found on our [blog](#). For upcoming research activities related to the network, [visit our website](#).

Faculty Research Initiatives

FOODWAYS

Convenor: Professor Heather Yeatman

[Foodways](#) research is the critical analysis of what, how, and why we eat. We strive to understand the intersection of food, environment and society, from local through to global perspectives, through aligning with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to promote inclusion and connection through food.

Our research brings novel and diverse approaches to complex issues around food, including community and key stakeholders' perspectives to provide a new lens to disrupt and reform current food systems policies and processes. Our aim is to increase food autonomy, food system sustainability, and overall health and well-being.

Foodways research fosters systematic evidence-based approaches to:

- Enhance approaches to food education;
- Integrate foodways considerations within sustainable urban designs;
- Improve food communications (mediAssociate social media networks); and
- Explore the health and social impacts of integrating community services with foodways and citizen driven alternative food networks

PEDAGOGICAL LABORATORY FOR EDUCATION

Convenor: Dr Dana Perlman

[The Pedagogical Laboratory for Education \(PLE\)](#) is an Australian first research group that is a central hub for the collection, analysis and dissemination of best practices research in the area of teaching and learning.

The innovation of PLE is that it is a truly interdisciplinary group that focuses on teaching and learning and Professessional practice, conducted within a variety of settings.

With a strengths/synergy model, the research group will be able to adapt to the changing needs and issues housed under teaching and learning. In 2020, the members of the PLE have begun to work on developing best practices models for use within the Sydney Catholic Schools.





School of the Arts, English and Media

HEAD OF SCHOOL: ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR BROGAN BUNT

HEAD OF RESEARCH: SENIOR PROFESSOR SUE TURNBULL

HEAD OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES: MARGARET HAMILTON

The School of the Arts, English and Media (TAEM) is a multi-disciplinary school that encompasses both pure and applied research across the visual, performing and media arts, creative writing, English and journalism. Our mission is to inspire creative thinking, learning and art practices through a nationally significant, multi-disciplinary education and research in contemporary creative arts.

FUNDING SUCCESS

Sue Turnbull, Steinar Ellingsen and Nicola Evans were awarded an ARC Linkage Grant (2019-22) with colleagues at QUT, Ryerson University in Canada and industry partners in Melbourne, Vancouver and Marseilles for the project Valuing Webseries: Economic, Industrial, Cultural and Social Value (\$577.35).

In 2019, Brian Yecies and Kang Tae-Jin, CEO of Webtoon Guide CO, were awarded \$61,000 by the Korea Creative Content Agency (KOCCA), to host

symposia at UOW and UQ and a public panel at the Sydney Oz Comic-con. These activities were an extension of Yecies' ARC Discovery project, Mobile Webtoons: Creative Innovation in a New Digital Economy (2018-2020)

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Dharawal project led by Guy Freer is a large-scale 'immersive digitisation' initiative of the Illawarra Local Aboriginal Lands Council in partnership with UOW. This project uses immersive visualisation technologies (augmented and virtual reality) to transform a collection of almost 4000 archaeological records of local Aboriginal rock art, engravings and cultural sites into a living digital archive of indigenous cultural knowledge.

Agnieszka Golda and Jo Law created Spinning World for the Museum of Applied Arts & Sciences. This multi-sensory art installation incorporating textiles, electronics and graphene was staged at the

Powerhouse Museum, Sydney from 2018-19, attracting 26,992 visitors to a unique art-science experience addressing environmental sustainability. Spinning World was the key creative output of the Global Challenges Seed project Materials Science, Slow Textiles and Ecological Futures with Sepidar Sayyar (AIMM, ANFF) and Helen McGregor (SEALS, SMAH).

Grant Ellmers has been working with the Global Challenges research group SENSE Spaces which was recently awarded the UOW Vice Chancellors Award for Excellence in Community Engagement 2020. The group was selected to participate in the CSIRO On Prime Lite program in workshops designed to empower researchers to connect with industry by developing practical industry engagement skills. Grant art-directed the design of SENSE Spaces corporate identity.

A number of articles were published in The Conversation, including;

- Sue Turnbull '[Miss Fisher and her Fans: How a heroine on Australia's small screen became a global phenomenon](#)'
- Aaron Burton who had two articles published during the pandemic ('[Great time to try: 5 1/2 ways to make movie masterpieces at home](#)' and '[New shows tell our isolation stories on screen](#)')
- Siobhan McHugh '[Michelle Obama Podcast Host: How Podcasting Became a Multi-Billion Dollar Industry](#)'

HIGHER DEGREE RESEARCH ACHIEVEMENTS

Since the start of 2019, there have been 19 HDR completions in TAEM with 5 students achieving commendations from one examiner.

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Guy Davidson was awarded the 2019 Australian Universities Heads of English Prize for Literary Scholarship for his book *Categorically Famous: Literary Celebrity and Sexual Liberation in 1960s America* (Stanford University Press, 2019).

Teo Treloar in Visual Arts was awarded the 2020 Jacaranda Acquisitive Drawing Award (JADA) from Grafton Regional Gallery (\$35,000) for his work, *This Is Impermanence*.

Chris Moore was the co-author with David P Marshall and Kim Barbour of *Persona Studies: An Introduction* (New York: Wiley) published in 2020, the first major text to deal with the topic of the persona in contemporary culture.

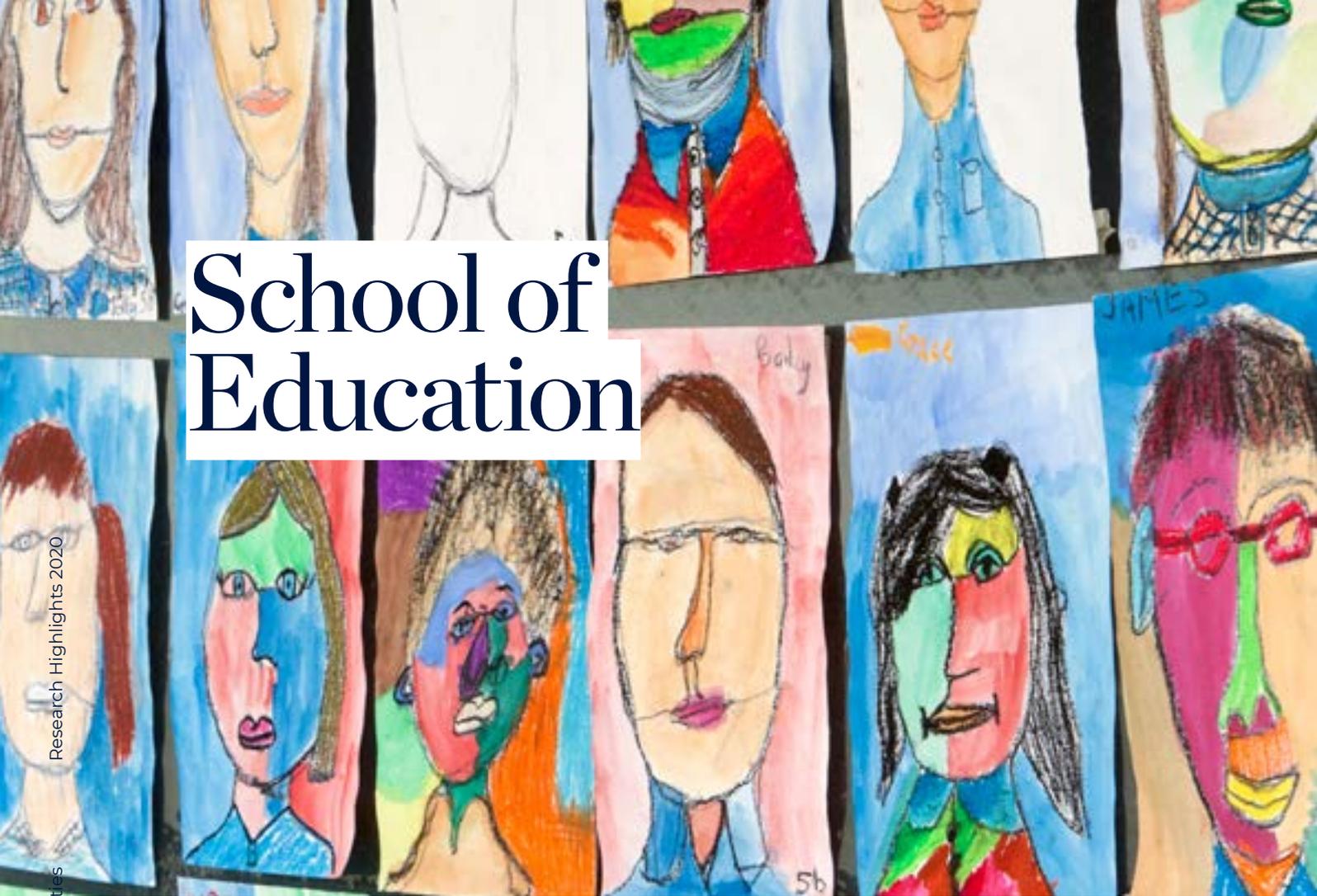


Penny Harris was part of the Global Challenges research team D.A.R.E (Dementia, art, research, education) using art as a strategy for educating children about disease and health Issues. During COVID-19 lockdown they curated an exhibition of UOW student work *Observing life-in the times of COVID-19* in the TAEM gallery in October 2020.

Jacky Redgate's photographic work has featured in a number of exhibitions including *Chrysalis*, (2020) UOW Art Gallery, *Defining Place/Space*, (2019- 2021) Museum of Photographic Arts (MOPA) in San Diego, USA, an exhibition that subsequently toured the USA. Her solo exhibition *Hold on* was held at the Geelong Gallery to coincide with *Photo 2020*, the International Festival of Photography.

Derek Kreckler's installation, *How to discipline a tree* (1989), was exhibited at Maitland Art Gallery during June-July 2020 following the acquisition of the work by the Maitland Regional Art Gallery Collection. Derek's photograph, *WGC (Homage to Carol Jerrums 2005)* was acquired by the Art Gallery of Western Australia and two photographs from the *Wombat* series, *Wombat 1* and *Wombat 2* (2002) were acquired by the UOW Art Collection.

In 2019 lecturer in theatre and performance, Mark Rogers won both the Sydney Theatre Company's Patrick White Award for an unproduced/unpublished theatre text (\$7500) and The Griffin Award (\$10,000). His play *Superheroes* went on to enjoy a successful run at the Griffin Theatre Company in Sydney in 2020.



School of Education

HEAD OF SCHOOL: PROFESSOR SUE BENNETT

HEAD OF RESEARCH: ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR SHIRLEY AGOSTINHO

HEAD OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES: DR DANA PERLMAN (JANUARY-JUNE), ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR STEVEN HOWARD (JULY-PRESENT)

The School of Education's research brings positive change to the lives of children, young people, families and communities. We transform educational outcomes across various sectors through interdisciplinary research and close engagement with community partners. Our research encompasses five themes: supporting the early years of life; education for health and wellbeing; promoting effective learning and teaching; education that includes all; and building capacity in current and future educators.

In 2020 our research was recognised through funding and awards, and opportunities to enhance our national and international connections. We are committed to translating our research findings through community and media engagement.

FUNDING SUCCESS AND AWARDS

UOW 2020 Global Challenges Seed Funding:

- Cultural burning for resilience: Youth-led

participatory action research to promote Indigenous practices for Country - Katharine Haynes (SMAH), Vanessa Cavanagh (ASSH), Lisa Slater (ASSH), Rebecca Stanley (ASSH), Yasmine Probst (SMAH), Oliver Costello (Firesticks Alliance Indigenous Corporation), Noel Webster (CEO Mudjingaalbaraga Firesticks/NSW Local Land Services South-East), Don Hankins (California State University).

- How effective are greenhouse gas sensors as blue carbon education, accounting and research tools? - Jeffrey Kelleway (SMAH), Susan Duschesne (ASSH), Wendy Nielsen (ASSH), Nicholas Deutscher (SMAH), Cormac Fay (EIS), Johan Barthélemy (EIS), Hugh Forehead (EIS), Kerrylee Rogers (SMAH).
- Stories affording pathways to healing: practices supporting community recovery and resilience post disaster - Lynne Keevers (ASSH), Anthony McKnight (ASSH), Deborah Gough (ASSH), Karen

Fildes (SMAH), Sharon James (SMAH), Karen File (ASSH), Susan Duchesne (ASSH), Saskia Ebejer (ASSH), Joanne Spangaro (ASSH), Adam Gowen (ASSH)

UOW 2020 Global Challenges Project Funding:

- Ready for anything: Identifying Novel, Community-Led Solutions for Evacuation Centres During Emergencies and Beyond - Duane Robinson (EIS), Cathrine Nielsen-Hewett (ASSH), Matthew Pepper (BAL), Sean Elphick (EIS), Nurul (Izzah) Afandi (EIS), Jonathan Knott (AIIM), Albert Munoz-Aneiros (BAL), Andrew Glover (ASSH)

University Global Partnership Network (UGPN) awarded to Sarah Howard for “Monty Goes Down Under: Adapting a Game-Based Learning Environment for International Student Collaboration”. Lead institution: North Carolina State University

UOW Vice Chancellor 2020 Postdoctoral Research Fellowship awarded to Myrto-Foteini Mavilidi for “Integrated Task-Relevant Physical Activity as a Healthy Way to Promote Children’s Learning: Balancing Physical-and Learning-Task Complexity”.

We end the year with great success in obtaining external funding (from ARC Discovery, NHMRC and Department of Education Strategic Research Fund Priority Project schemes) totalling close to \$1.8M across four projects led by School of Education academics.

STAFF AWARDS

Vice-Chancellor’s Research Excellence Award for Researcher of the Year: Tony Okely

Vice-Chancellor’s Award for Outstanding Achievement in Research Partnership & Impact for the collaborative project “Ahead of the Game: Global impact in the promotion of mental health through sport”. Research team:

- Stewart Vella (ASSH)
- Tony Okely (ASSH)
- Simon Eckermann (BAL)
- Frank Deane (ASSH)
- Industry Partners: Movember Foundation, Rugby League World Cup, Rugby League Cares Foundation and Harlequins Foundation

Rose Dixon was awarded the *2020 Vice-Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Community Engagement* for the collaborative project “SENSE Spaces”. Research team:

- Holly Tootell (EIS)

- Pippa Burns (SMAH)
- Grant Ellmers (ASSH)
- Susan Slowikowski (BAL)
- Rose Dixon (ASSH)
- Sim Lau (EIS)
- Andrea Garner (ASSH)

HIGHER DEGREE RESEARCH ACHIEVEMENTS

Stewart Alford, Gregory Elliott, Amanda Gigliotti, Lyndel Hewitt, and Thi Khanh Doan Nguyen contributed original research across the School’s specialisations.

DISSEMINATION AND TRANSLATION

Helen Georgiou and Wendy Nielsen hosted the annual international conference for the Australasian Science Education Research Association fully online for the first time (watch the [welcome video](#)).

Sarah Howard presented online keynotes at two international educational technology conferences:

- [EdMedia 2020](#): “Making connections: Equipping the next generation of teachers for educational technology use”
- [SITE 2020](#): “Free to be you and me: A person-centered approach to preparing teachers for online learning”

Gai Lindsay facilitated a series of parent webinars during COVID-19 restrictions as part of her “Parenting in the Pandemic and Beyond” project in the Abu Dhabi region to provide inspiration for quality parent/child arts engagement in the home.

MEDIA PIECES ABOUT OUR RESEARCH

- [Australian primary private schools should be fully funded by governments — but banned from charging fees](#)
- [Schools are open during the coronavirus outbreak but should I voluntarily keep my kids home anyway, if I can? We asked 5 experts](#)
- [How to help young children regulate their emotions and behaviours during the pandemic](#)
- [5 tips to help parents navigate the unique needs of children with autism learning from home](#)
- [How art helps children to thrive](#)
- [How COVID-19 exposed the fault lines in Australian education](#)
- [Moving research guidelines](#)
- [Questioning your child’s study methods? Keep this in mind](#)



School of Geography and Sustainable Communities

HEAD OF SCHOOL: ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR NICHOLAS GILL

HEAD OF RESEARCH: SENIOR PROFESSOR PAULINE MCGUIRK

HEAD OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES: DR THOMAS BIRTCHNELL

Research in the School of Geography and Sustainable Communities (SGSC) is conducted through the Australian Centre for Culture, Environment, Society and Space (ACCESS). Alongside ACCESS research detailed on (page 14), SGSC research highlights include our HDRs' achievements, collaborations via UOW Global Challenges projects, high impact publications and additional awards.

HIGHER DEGREE RESEARCH ACHIEVEMENTS

Our students attracted awards for research activities including:

- Makrita Solitei - Cheryl Gretzel Bursary Award, \$10,000.
- Freya Croft - Association of Commonwealth Universities, Blue Charter Fellowship, \$30,000.
- Craig Lyons - Dorothy R Taylor Award for Best Paper, Australian Geographer, \$500.
- Carrie Wilkinson - Geographical Society of NSW Symposium Funding Scheme, \$1,200.

Four students were awarded their PhDs:

- Shefali Juneja - Co-learning disaster resilience: A person-centred approach to understanding experiences of refuge and practices of safety'. Both examiners recommended the award of a Special Commendation.
- Ananth Gopal - Growing cultures: cultivating culturally diverse ecological knowledge.
- Razia Sultana - Urban Green Infrastructure in the Global South.
- Rebecca Campbell - Food and kitchens as gendered household sustainability practice in Pacific Island migrant households.

New HDR enrolments are strong, including:

- Thomas Fisher: Pedalling for change: Everyday cycling experiences.
- Teaniel Mifsud: Exploring perceptions and policies concerning shark mitigation.
- Melinda Young: Landlines and tracelines:

- Topographies of place and the body.
- Crystal Arnold: What teachings are being shared by weeds? Learning from the Shoalhaven River
- Jennifer Smart: Crossing land, social and biosecurity boundaries.

Jennifer Smart's scholarship is co-funded by NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service via the UOW Matching Scholarship Scheme.

Carrie Wilkinson and SGSC PhD graduate, Susannah Clements, hosted the Geographers Declare! workshop supported by Geographical Society of NSW (GSNSW). The workshop attracted over 50 participants keen to develop a declaration of Climate and Biodiversity Emergency, echoing the growing number of declarations by universities, Professional organisations and local governments worldwide.

PUBLICATION HIGHLIGHTS

Key high impacts journal publications include:

- Cook N & Ruming K (2020) The financialisation of housing and the rise of the investor-activist, *Urban Studies* (WoS Rank 13)
- Gibbs L (2020) Animal geographies I: Hearing the cry and extending beyond, *Progress in Human Geography* (WoS Rank 4)
- Gibson C & Warren A (2020) Keeping time with trees, *Geoforum* (WoS Rank 17)
- Stratfield E, Waitt G & Harada T (2020) Walking streets, *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers* (WoS Rank 8)
- Tindale A & Klocker N (2020) Neighbourhood ethnic diversity and residential choice, *Urban Geography* (WoS Rank 9)

Three new books are also among our publication highlights:

- McKinnon S & Cook M (2020) (Eds) *Disasters in Australia and New Zealand: Historical Approaches to Understanding Catastrophe*, Palgrave MacMillan.
- Eriksen C & Ballard S (2020) *Alliances in the Anthropocene: Fire, Plants and People*, Palgrave.
- Gibson C & Warren A (2021) *The Guitar: Tracing the Grain Back to the Tree*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

The School's cross-faculty collaborations and collaborations with external partners, Australian and international universities have been supported by success in several UOW Global Challenges grants including:

- Research with Liverpool City Council as part of the Resident Perceptions of Intensification project resulted in the production of the Apartment-Dwellers' Perceptions of Intensification in Liverpool CBD report, by the interdisciplinary team of Nicole Cook, Sophie-May Kerr, Shanaka Herath and Cole Hendrigan.
- Cultural burning for resilience - Vanessa Cavanagh with colleagues from ASSH, SMAH, Firesticks Alliance Indigenous Corporation, Mudjingaalbaraga Firesticks/NSW Local Land Services South-East and California State University.
- Collective weed management in post-fire landscapes - Sonia Graham and Nicholas Gill with colleagues from ASSH, SMAH and EIS.

STAFF AWARDS

- Gordon Waitt was elected as Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences Australia (ASSA), joining SGSC's Chris Gibson and Pauline McGuirk as the School's third ASSA fellow.
- Jennifer Atchison received UOW's 2020 award for Excellence in Research Supervision for Emerging Researchers.
- Pauline McGuirk was awarded the GSNSW's MacDonald Holmes Medal for distinguished contribution in the field of geographical education in Australia.

JINDOALA

UOW's Jindaola program has continued to support SGSC research, as well as teaching and learning, by guiding respectful engagement and relationships with communities and by providing opportunities at the nexus of research and teaching. Vanessa Cavanagh, Bundjalung and Wonnarua PhD scholar and lecturer says "Jindaola continues to support my work and worldviews as part of my employment at UOW, by supporting my research to be bounded with Country. It provides a conscious community of cultural safety and people working on their decolonisation and that of the institution".





School of Health and Society

HEAD OF SCHOOL: PROFESSOR ANNETTE BRAUNACK-MEYER

HEAD OF RESEARCH: ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR CATHERINE MACPHAIL

HEAD OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES: DR ANNE-MAREE PARRISH

The School of Health and Society is a multi-disciplinary school with researchers working across a broad range of social and health challenges. Our research is organised across five themes that reflect our diverse interests and engagement with communities.

1. Ageing and Society
2. Preventing and Managing Chronic Conditions
3. Understanding and Preventing Violence
4. Global Indigenous Knowledge and Decolonisation
5. Safety at Work and in the Community

Despite COVID-19 limitations, 2020 has been an active research year for the School of Health and Society (HAS). Staff have published widely in leading international journals as well as producing a number of books and book chapters on issues as diverse as physical activity in schools, social media and gender violence, and development of decolonised social work practice.

We have presented research in the School at monthly research seminars and HAS researchers have been well-represented in Faculty research presentations.

RESEARCH IMPACT

Many of our researchers have made headlines for their work. Lyn Phillipson and Cathy Duncan presented evidence at the Royal Commission on Aged Care to address lack of carer recognition in the Home Care Packages Program; Jane Whitelaw has provided consultation and been in the media talking about use of respiratory protection during bushfires and COVID-19. Her advocacy has seen over 500 unfit masks removed from the TGA register and new protection standards and fit testing introduced for health care workers. Summer Finlay has advocated for Australian reconciliation and the Black Lives Matter movement in the national media on several occasions and Cammi Webb-Gannon has highlighted the West Papuan independence movement.

FUNDING SUCCESS

During 2020, researchers from our School were awarded grants from a range of sources.

- Focusing on responding to disasters, we received Global Challenges grants to support community recovery from disaster (Lynne Keevers, Jo Spangaro); including people with disabilities in disaster response planning (Louisa Smith) and; adjusting to disaster with adaptive and protective transport (Delia Rambaldini-Gooding, Louise Smith, Lyn Phillipson). Additionally, we received a Community Engagement grant (Katarzyna Olcoń, Lynne Keevers, Julaine Allan, Mim Fox) and a NHMRC MRFF grant (Lynne Keevers, Julaine Allan, Chris Degeling, Katarzyna Olcoń, Mim Fox, Summer Finlay) examining community responses to disasters.
- Alison Bell and collaborators received Global Challenges funding for developing mobility aids to assist the elderly
- Hassan Hosseinzadeh received a Faculty Partnership grant with Primary and Community Care Services looking at prevention and control of COVID-19 in community settings
- Jo Spangaro has led the violence research theme to a number of grant successes. This includes an ARC Linkage to respond to intimate partner violence experienced by refugee women in Australia; work with the WHO to identify interventions to reduce risk and incidence of sexual violence in humanitarian crises (with Chye Toole-Anstey, Delia Rambaldini-Gooding, Lynne Keevers, Catherine MacPhail) and a grant from NSW Health to understand harmful sexual behaviours among children (with Natalia Hanley, Kenny Kor, Julaine Allan, Jason Payne, Summer Finlay).
- Jane Whitelaw, Jen Hines and Linda Apthorpe received an AIOH Foundation grant to examine effectiveness of P2 respirators for volunteer firefighters.
- Summer Finlay is on a team led by The George Institute to research discharge planning for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children following burn injuries, funded by the Indigenous Australians Health Program.
- Hassan Hosseinzadeh, together with PhD student Jessica Cerni, received funding from the Primary Care Collaborative Cancer Clinical Trials Group (PC4) Research Grant scheme to support research on end-of-life cancer care provision in NSW.



STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

Dr Shahnaz Bakand, was the recipient of the Vice-Chancellor's Interdisciplinary Research Excellence Award for a collaboration to develop the next generation of sunscreens.

Summer Finlay and Catherine MacPhail took up roles on the editorial boards of the Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health and BMC Public Health respectively.

Alison Bell was conferred as Adjunct Fellow in the Institute for Sustainable Industries and Liveable Cities, Melbourne University in order to continue her work on food packaging.

HIGHER DEGREE RESEARCH ACHIEVEMENTS

Our staff have actively facilitated the growth of new researchers. Hassan Hosseinzadeh, Natalia Hanley and Robyn Coman were nominated for the VC award for supervision excellence. Across HAS we have supported 13 HDR students' research proposals and three HDR students submitted their final theses. Eugene Laloo, who is currently enrolled in a PhD examining psychosocial hazards in the workplace, won the ASSH 2020 Three Minute Thesis competition. We congratulate all our HDR students on their achievements this year. Our staff have also had HDR achievements. Both Summer Finlay and Kenny Kor were awarded their PhDs, with Kenny selected for the 2020 Dean's Award for Outstanding PhD theses at UNSW.



School of Humanities and Social Inquiry

HEAD OF SCHOOL: ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR FRANCES STEEL

HEAD OF RESEARCH: ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR JULIA MARTÍNEZ

HEAD OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES: DR JANE CAREY

The School of Humanities and Social Inquiry (HSI) promotes critical understanding of our complex and diverse world, drawing on Indigenous, historical, cultural, political and environmental perspectives. We engage with local, national and international governments, institutions and community groups. Our values-based research mobilises feminist and postcolonial principles to examine historical inequities and to encourage social transformation, enhanced well-being and sustainable futures.

FUNDING SUCCESS

- Professor Fiona Probyn-Rapsey, with Professor Lynette Russell (Monash), was awarded an ARC Special Research Initiatives grant, The Cultural Impacts of Introduced Animals in Australia, 2021-2023, \$230,277.
- Associate Professor Phil Orchard was awarded an ARC Discovery Project, Creating Accountability: Improving Responses to Forced Displacement Crimes, 2020-2022, \$181,755.
- Dr Claire Lowrie, with Victoria Haskins (University of Newcastle) and Swapna Banerjee (City University of New York), was awarded an ARC Discovery Grant for Ayahs and Amahs: Transcolonial Servants in Australia and Britain 1780-1945, 2020-2022, \$191,437.
- Dr Adam Lucas gained a Leverhulme Trust Project Grant with Emeritus Professor Paul Bishop (Glasgow) 'Away from the water': the first energy transition, British textiles 1770-1890, 2021-2024, £453,000.
- Dr Patrick McGivern was awarded a Templeton Grant for Intelligent Agency on Multiple Scales, 2020-2021, \$400,000.
- Associate Professor Sharon Crozier-De Rosa received a 2020 National Library of Australia Research Fellowship for Memory-Keeper: Women activists' strategies to document their history and preserve their own memory.
- Dr Quah Ee Ling Sharon was awarded a UOW Community Engagement Grant, 'Understanding

diversity service workers' knowledge and skills gap in servicing culturally diverse LGBTIQ+ communities in the context of COVID-19', with Advance Diversity Services, \$12,600.

- Dr André Brett, VC Postdoctoral Fellow, was awarded a Humanities Travelling Fellowship by the Australian Academy of the Humanities to support his project *Divide and Rule: Territorial Separation Movements in Colonial Australasia*.

HSI interdisciplinary researchers gained three Global Challenges Seed Grants:

- Cultural burning for resilience: Youth-led participatory action research to promote Indigenous practices for Country, Dr Lisa Slater with colleagues from SMAH, ASSH and external partners.
- *Place-based cultural revitalisation: Culture futures with the Corroboree frog*, Dr Lisa Slater with colleagues from SMAH, ASSH and external partners
- #RecoverSouthCoast: Understanding Social Media Use in Bushfire Recovery' Dr Alison Moore with colleagues from EIS, SMAH and ASSH.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Dr Shoshana Dreyfus (co-convenor of UOW Disability Research Group) has been working with the Wollongong City Council and The Disability Trust conducting research with people with intellectual disabilities who are functionally nonverbal, funded by a UOW Community Engagement Scheme grant.

Associate Professor Roger Patulny was elected to the executive of the Australian Sociological Association and represents the Public Sociology portfolio.

Associate Professor Sharon Crozier-De Rosa was elected to the Board of the International Federation for Research in Women's History.

Professor Greg Melleuish participated in the Senate Committee Inquiry into Nationhood, National Identity and Democracy.

Dr Charles Hawksley co-authored the Research for Development Impact (RDI) Network consultancy publication *Enhancing Research Impact in International Development: a practical guide for practitioners and researchers*, with Associate Professor Nichole Georgeou of Western Sydney University (WSU).

Dr Michelle Peterie was interviewed by SBS on the reopening of Christmas Island Immigration Detention Centre.

HSI researchers have gained broader readership in *The Conversation*:

- Patulny, R, [Does social media make us more or less lonely depends on how you use it](#). The Conversation, 22/1/2020 - 33,260 views.
- Better University Governance (Adam Lucas, Andrew Whelan, Fiona Probyn-Rapsey, George Takacs, Marcelo Svirsky, Nadia Verucci), [Governing universities: tertiary experience no longer required](#). 4/09/2020. 20,700 views;
- Patulny R, McKenzie, J, Bower, M, Olson, R - [Reconnecting after Coronavirus – 4 key ways cities can counter anxiety and loneliness](#), The Conversation, 27/4/2020 - 16,152 views. Chosen to be published in 2020: The Year That Changed Us.
- Michelle Peterie, ['Banning mobile phones in immigration detention would make an inhumane system even crueler'](#). The Conversation, 1/9/2020 - 6,302 reads, 1,569 shares.

HIGHER DEGREE RESEARCH ACHIEVEMENTS

From November 2019 to November 2020 HSI completed 17 Research Proposal Reviews, quite an achievement given the pandemic circumstances. Russell Meyer (Philosophy) received commendations from both examiners. Dr Nick Brancazio, who completed her PhD in April 2020, was awarded a postdoc on Patrick McGivern's Templeton grant. Dr Peter Gibson was awarded the Jim Hagan Memorial Prize for his PhD thesis: 'Made in Chinatown: Chinese Furniture Factories in Australia'.

SIGNIFICANT HIGHLIGHTS

Dr Michelle Peterie gained a three-year Vice Chancellor post-doctorate position in sociology to research 'Bureaucratic Violence and the Weaponisation of Emotion' (with Dr Andrew Whelan as a mentor).

Dr Quah Ee Ling Sharon, Dr Andrew Whelan, Dr Jen Roberts, Dr Claire Lowrie, and Dr Lisa Slater received the Jindaola Grant 2020 for their project, *Decolonising Humanities and Social Inquiry curriculum through giving importance to Indigenous knowledges and perspectives*.

Dr Patrick McGivern was Highly Commended in the Vice Chancellor's Excellence in Research Supervision Award.

PhD student, Lauren Samuelsson, received a 'highly commended' for the prestigious Australian Historical Association Jill Roe Prize for the best unpublished article-length work by a postgraduate student.

School of Liberal Arts

HEAD OF SCHOOL: SENIOR PROFESSOR DANIEL D. HUTTO

HEAD OF RESEARCH: SENIOR PROFESSOR DANIEL D. HUTTO

HEAD OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES: DR TALIA MORAG

Academics in the School of Liberal Arts have been active in scholarship and research throughout 2019-20. Between them they have produced over 80 articles and book chapters during this period. This is impressive industry given that the School was only established in 2019 and the bulk of the staff are Early Career Researchers in their first year of full-time employment. To their credit, their work has regularly appeared in top-rated international journals including: *Continental Philosophy Review*; *Inquiry*; *Mind and Language*; *Philosophical Studies*; *The Philosophical Quarterly*; *Philosophy, Psychology and Psychiatry*; *Synthese*, and *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science*. They have also published chapters in edited volumes with the very best university presses: Cambridge; Harvard; Oxford; and the MIT Press.

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

- Kirchoff and Kiverstein's 2019 book, *Extended Consciousness and Predictive Processing: A Third-*

- *Wave View*, published with Routledge
- Shaun Gallagher's 2020 book, *Action and Interaction*, published by Oxford University Press
- This year also saw the third edition of Gallagher and Zahavi's award-winning, *The Phenomenological Mind*, which was rated as an Outstanding Academic Title by Choice
- The paperback edition of *The Oxford Handbook of 4E-Cognition*, that Gallagher edited with Newen and De Bruin

DOCTORAL ACHIEVEMENTS

The School saw its first PhD completion in 2019. Miguel Segundo Ortin's dissertation was awarded with special commendations for an outstanding thesis by both its international examiners. Miguel was appointed to the position of Postdoctoral Researcher in SOLA's ARC Discovery Project, *Mind in Skilled Performance*, until July 2020. He has now taken up a second Postdoctoral Researcher position on a project funded by the Netherlands Organisation for

Scientific Research at the University of Utrecht, under the supervision of Dr Annemarie Kalis. A second PhD student, Ines Hipolito, submitted her PhD thesis for examination in 2020, and has already secured a Postdoctoral Research position on a three-year project at Humboldt University's Berlin School of Mind and Brain.

GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

The School proudly hosted a two-day international conference: [Understanding and Explaining Skilled Performance: Looking Across Traditions](#), on 26-27 February 2020, as part of its [ARC Discovery project – Mind in Skilled Performance](#). The conference focused on evaluating explanatory proposals about the cognitive basis of skilled performance, as well as considering what non-analytic philosophical traditions of thought and practice – phenomenology, pragmatism and Japanese Dō – can contribute to our understanding of the phenomenon under investigation. The event provided an excellent

opportunity to share ideas and has resulted in many fine papers that will be published in a special issue of top journal *Synthese*.

STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

Indicators of esteem this year include Professor Gallagher being invited: to join the Scientific Board of Philological-Literary, Historical-Philosophical and Artistic Sciences at the University of Parma; to be a Visiting Research Professor, at Sapienza, Università di Roma from May to June 2019, and to deliver the Venetian Lectures, *Lezioni Veneziane di Filosofia*, a series of four lectures at Ca' Foscari University of Venice in September 2019. Senior Professor Hutto was invited to update the *Stanford Encyclopedia Entry* on 'Folk Psychology as Theory' and to deliver the prestigious [Gottlob Frege Lectures in Theoretical Philosophy](#): The Frege Lectures were first established in 2007 and are series delivered each year by distinguished, world renown philosophers.



School of Psychology

HEAD OF SCHOOL: PROFESSOR PETER CAPUTI

DEPUTY HEAD OF SCHOOL (RESEARCH): ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR PETER KELLY

DEPUTY HEAD OF SCHOOL (TEACHING AND LEARNING): PROFESSOR STUART JOHNSTONE

HEAD OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES: ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR STEPHEN PALMISANO

Our School is underpinned by world-class researchers who are conducting dynamic programs of research. This includes basic scientific research such as experimental and laboratory studies, through to applied and community-focused research. Our researchers work across a range of populations, rapidly adding to the knowledge-base of a diverse group of psychological processes, behaviour and behaviour change, as well as psychological and health conditions. We have strengths in translational research, where our research groups work in close partnership with a range of community-based organisations and services to drive meaningful societal benefits.

FUNDING SUCCESS

- NSW Ministry of Health Byrne, Deane and Williams. One size does not fit all: Gatekeeper training in Aboriginal communities of the Shoalhaven. \$309,750.
- Suicide Prevention Australia Bliokas, Lago, Hains, Grenyer et al. Investigating gender differences in a suicide prevention aftercare program: How can we improve outcomes for all? \$98,204.
- Vision: Science to Applications (VISTA) research grant Palmisano. Nonlinear analysis of the effects of vision on postural stability. \$50,000
- National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Deng, Croft. Exposures of mobile phone radiofrequency electromagnetic energy in juveniles: effects on brain development and behaviours. \$632,100
- NSW Health COVID-19 Research Program Clapham, Bessarab, Fredericks, Senior, Harwood, Hasan, Kelly et al. (2019 – 2021). A place-based pandemic response to the strengths and vulnerabilities of Aboriginal communities in south-eastern New South Wales. \$793,125.
- Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) Davey, Cargo, Lincoln, Phillips, Herbert et al. A Good Start in Life for Young Children: Reducing

- Vulnerability and Health Inequity. \$866,846 Pirkis, Patton, Oliffe, Reavley, Mihalopoulos, LaMontagne, Rice, Seidler, King, Vella. Preventing suicide in boys and men. \$5,623,000.
- Community Mental Health, Drug & Alcohol Research Network (CMHDARN) Robinson, Kelly, Larance, Deane. Assessing mental health in young people attending residential substance use treatment programs: trialling an online approach. \$14,000 Argent, Beck, Kelly, Deane et al. From both sides: A qualitative exploration of participant and facilitator experience of remote access to SMART Recovery Groups (\$16,000).
- York University Palmisano. Consequences of Sensory Conflict in Virtual Reality. \$11,023
- Defence Innovation Network (DIN) Miellet et al. Facial Verification Explainability Measures. \$20,000.
- Hunter Cancer Research Alliance McCarter, Davis, Fradgley, Taylor, Aslam, Watts, Deane et al. Feasibility trial of an information and psychosocial intervention for grief and psychological well-being for carers of patients with advanced cancer. \$83,628.
- Coal Mines Insurance, Coal Services Ltd and an Innovation Connection Grant Pedram, Palmisano et al. (2020). Assessing the feasibility of HMD-Based Virtual Reality for the delivery of remote telehealth. Funded by, \$70,833 (AUD).
- Queensland Health Grenyer, Townsend, Huxley, Frencham, Marceau, Finch, van Schie (2020). Consultation to enhance services for people with personality disorders. \$306,900.

HIGHER DEGREE RESEARCH ACHIEVEMENTS

- Douglas John Rennox Kerr (PhD), *The Reconstruction of Narrative Identity in Mental Health Recovery: A Complex Adaptive System Approach*
- Diarmuid Sean Hurley (PhD), *The Development, Implementation, and Evaluation of a Mental Health Literacy Intervention for Parents in Community Sport Clubs*
- Kayla Steele (doctoral student) was the winner of the annual Universities Australia Award in the Pitch it Clever Competition for research on *Parenting with Borderline Personality Disorder*
- Lenna Carradus (doctoral student) was awarded a Suicide Prevention Australia PhD Scholarship for her project titled *Improving suicide prevention in AOD Treatment: The design and implementation of a collaborative care intervention for the alcohol and other drug treatment sector*
- Sophie Russell (doctoral student) was awarded an Australian Rotary Health doctoral scholarship for her project titled *Remember the Time: Parent-child Reminiscing and Associations with Psychopathology*

RESEARCH AWARDS AND HIGHLIGHTS

- Dr Stewart Vella and Senior Professor Frank Deane were awarded the UOW *Vice-Chancellor's Award for Outstanding Achievement in Research Partnership & Impact* Presented for Ahead of the Game: Global impact in the promotion of mental health through sport
- Associate Professor Stephen Palmisano was awarded the VISTA Distinguished Visiting Scholar Award for the project *Consequences of Sensory Conflict in Virtual Reality*
- Senior Professor Rodney Croft led the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection's radiofrequency guideline development (May 2020). This is the first update in over 20 years, and sets the international standard for design and use of all telecommunications technologies, such as radio, television and 4G/5G mobile phones
- Associate Professor Vida Bliokas was recognised in the 2020 Higher Education Hot List

PROJECT AIR

Project Director: Professor Brin Grenyer
Research Manager: Dr Michelle Townsend

- Project Air is a centre of excellence for research, education and treatment of personality disorders and related complex challenges including self-harm, suicide and comorbid conditions and is the only university-based personality disorders centre with a national and international focus that has the capacity and expertise to provide a national focus of work. Project Air has developed and evaluated a range of interventions for health services, schools and clinicians. We build capacity to help health services, schools and communities identify and respond more effectively to suicide risk, self-harm and complex mental health presentations.
- Project Air Strategy for Personality Disorders is a partnership between the Illawarra Health and Medical Research Institute at the University of Wollongong and the NSW Ministry for Health and Local NSW Health Districts. It seeks to engage the community, families, carers, consumers and health and drug and alcohol services and agencies, to support better treatments for personality disorders. Founded in 2001, the Strategy fosters University-Health partnerships locally, nationally and internationally.



Early Start Research

DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH: SENIOR PROFESSOR TONY OKELY

Early Start Research is a research strength of the University of Wollongong and a part of the Early Start initiative. We work with the Abbott Foundation, the World Health Organization, NSW Health, Goodstart Early Learning, the Australian Government Departments of Health and Education, the Australian Children's Education & Care Quality Authority, and various other organisations collaborating on research into overcoming disadvantage and effecting real social change.

The primary business of Early Start Research is to conduct world-class, evidence-based research that drives government policy, and assists industry professionals and the broader public in making informed educational decisions for policy and practice.

Early Start Research members are internationally recognised for their expertise in education, cognition, health, and physical activity.

EARLY START RESEARCH SPANS FOUR ENGAGEMENT FRONTIERS

ONE: PLAY-BASED RESEARCH (EARLY START DISCOVERY SPACE)

A major area for collective action for our group is linked to the Early Start Engagement Frontier of Play-Based Research. The Early Start Discovery Space provides an ideal forum for the testing and delivery of novel child healthy eating and movement interventions, and play-based research.

These interventions draw on our group's current research and programs in other settings for translation into the Discovery Space. Outcomes from these interventions will have broader relevance to other settings where children gather, including Early Childhood Education and Care and schools.

TWO: COMMUNITY-FOCUSED INTERVENTIONS (EARLY START ENGAGEMENT CENTRES)

Another major area for collective action is the development, implementation and evaluation of Early Childhood Education and Care-based interventions to improve identified areas of need relating to children's learning, development, and wellbeing (e.g., fine motor, oral language/ communication, and self-regulation). Researchers work with Early Start Engagement Centres across New South Wales, in areas with high vulnerability and experiencing complex needs, to develop and implement a service integration model and evaluate its effectiveness, its impact on services and stakeholders, and its sustainability.

THREE: MEASUREMENT, QUALITY AND METHODOLOGY

Early Start researchers are also working to develop a suite of formative and summative assessment tools that evaluate and influence learning and development outcomes for children aged 0 to 5 years, via enhanced Early Childhood Education and Care and educator practice and understanding of child development.

FOUR: GLOBAL AND NATIONAL/STATE INITIATIVES IN AGES BIRTH TO 10 YEARS

Finally, the fourth engagement frontier aims for Early Start to be recognised through its leadership in major national and international research projects. Central to this is developing and strengthening links with national and international collaborators, and establishing strategic partnerships with key organisations and authorities at a national and international level.



EARLY START DISCOVERY SPACE (ESDS) PROJECT (FUNDED BY THE ABBOTT FOUNDATION)

Longitudinal Pilot Study: over an 18-month period, we have examined changes in creativity, collaboration, confidence, "can-do" attitude, and curiosity (referred to as the 5Cs) and self-regulation among three to five year-old ESDS visitors.

EARLY START ENGAGEMENT CENTRES (ESECS) PROJECT (FUNDED BY IAN POTTER FOUNDATION)

ESEC COVID-19 Research: we have commenced research exploring how educators have enacted leadership in early childhood settings during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Early Learning @ Home: in collaboration with Early Childhood Australia and Playgroup Australia, funding was awarded towards developing an online platform to support families to provide learning in the home environment for children aged 0–5 years.

THE EARLY YEARS MONITORING AND OBSERVATION FOR DEVELOPMENT AND EARLY LEARNING (MODEL) RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Early Years Toolbox (EYT): further development of EYT products and services has taken place, including an EYT Language and Communications draft assessment and first instantiation of an educator data aggregator platform. Funding has also been secured from NESTA UK to extend the EYT Early Numeracy app further into early primary school.

GLOBAL INITIATIVES

SUNRISE International Study of Movement Behaviours in the Early Years: from 2018-2020, the SUNRISE Coordinating Centre team have established research partnerships with international experts from 38 countries, including 14 low-and-middle-income countries. The pilot study has established the feasibility and acceptability of the proposed methods and provides preliminary data on the proportion of four-year-old children in each country who meet the WHO Global 24-hour Movement Guidelines for the Early Years. The main study has since commenced in Papua New Guinea.

Clear goal for graduate researchers

2019/2020 has been a period of significant change in the HDR landscape. First, in July 2020, schools from the Faculty of Social Sciences and Faculty of Law Humanities and Arts came together to form the Faculty of the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (ASSH). UOW's second largest faculty in terms of HDR numbers.

Despite these changes, our overall purpose remains the same. ASSH aims to deliver a first-class educational experience to its Higher Degree Research (HDR) students, along with significantly improved recruitment and completion numbers.

There are 425 HDR students enrolled in the Faculty of the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (326 domestic and 100 international students) with 190 students currently on a scholarship.

Developing and implementing strategies and actions to support the Faculty's overall strategic research goal are the schools' Heads of Postgraduate Studies, along with the ADR, Professor Lisa Kervin and ASSH Research Team:

- Dr Jane Carey (School of Humanities and Social Inquiry)

- Associate Professor Stephen Palmisano (School of Psychology)
- Dr Margaret Hamilton (School of the Arts, English and Media)
- Dr Anne-Maree Parish (School of Health and Society)
- Dr Talia Morag (School of Liberal Arts)
- Dr Thomas Birtchnell (School of Geography and Sustainable Communities)
- Associate Professor Steven Howard (School of Education)

It must be acknowledged that 2020 has seen significant challenges for both HDR students and research in general. During the summer of 2019/20 Australia (particularly the east coast) suffered unprecedented bushfires with ASSH students impacted. Following this, a global public health emergency (COVID-19 outbreak) was declared by the World Health Organisation on 30 January 2020 and has remained an ever present part of our lives throughout the year and in to the future.

It is with this in mind that we want to acknowledge each and every student

for their understanding and efficiency from shifting from on campus learning to working from home. There certainly have been times in 2020 when motivation and progress has been difficult. We have seen and heard so many stories of support from HDR students helping one another and developing new strategies to keep PhD studies moving forward. Students continue to develop their communication, teamwork, and leadership skills as they are actively engaged in various online training and professional development courses. We are inspired by these efforts and thank students for their contributions to research and for attending the various faculty support sessions and virtual writing groups.

The Faculty recorded a total of 54 completions in 2019 (Both SOC and LHA) and 35 in 2020 (as of 20 November 2020).

Doctoral students Corinne Green (Education) and Eugene Laloo (Health and Society) represented ASSH in the UOW 3- Minute Thesis Competition and did the faculty proud. Other notable achievements include:

- Kayla Steele (Psychology) won the Pitch It Clever Universities Australia Award for her video 'Parenting with borderline personality disorder'
- Hayley Scrivener's novel 'The Push Back' was shortlisted for the Penguin Literary Prize in March 2020. She was also shortlisted for the Kill Your Darlings Unpublished Manuscript Award in September 2020
- Freya Croft (Geography and Sustainable Communities) was awarded a global Blue Charter Fellowship to tackle plastic waste in fishing industry - one of only 10 researchers to receive the prestigious award
- Jessica Cerni (Health and Society) secured a \$5000 grant from Primary Care Collaborative Cancer Clinical Trials (PC4) for: The Effects of Geographic Variation on the Patterns of End-Of-Life Cancer Care Provision in NSW

We are buoyed with hope from the efforts and achievements of our wonderful HDR students.

Vice-Chancellor Awards

FACULTY OF THE ARTS, SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES STAFF 2020

THE VICE-CHANCELLOR'S OCTAL AWARD

Dr Tam Ha - School of Health and Society

FACULTY OCTAL AWARD

Associate Professor Lynne Keevers - School of Health and Society

Dr Jane Warren (Highly Commended) - School of Education

RESEARCH EXCELLENCE AWARD FOR RESEARCHER OF THE YEAR

Senior Professor Tony Okely - Early Start

AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP & IMPACT

PROJECT

Ahead of the Game: Global impact in the promotion of mental health through sport

In partnership with the Movember Foundation, Rugby League World Cup, Rugby League Cares Foundation and Harlequins Foundation.

Dr Stewart Vella - School of Psychology
Senior Professor Tony Okely - Early Start
Senior Professor Frank Deane - School of Psychology

Alongside Senior Professor Simon Eckermann - Faculty of Business and Law

ROSEMARY COOPER EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION AWARD

Dr Ee Ling Quah - School of Humanities and Social Inquiry

AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH SUPERVISION

Excellence in Research Supervision for Emerging Researchers:

Dr Jenny Atchison - School of Geography and Sustainable Communities

Dr Patrick McGivern (Highly Commended) - School of Humanities and Social Inquiry

AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

SENSE Spaces

Dr Grant Ellmers - School of the Arts, English and Media

Dr Rose Dixon - School of Education

Dr Andrea Garner - School of Education

Alongside Dr Holly Tootell and Dr Sim Lau - Faculty of Engineering and Information Sciences, Dr Pippa Burns - Faculty of Science, Medicine and Health and Dr Susan Slowikowsk - Faculty of Business and Law

25 YEARS SERVICE AWARD

Christine Anderson - School of Humanities and Social Inquiry

Suzana Kouzan - Teaching and Learning Unit, Faculty Office



**FACULTY OF THE ARTS, SOCIAL
SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES**

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