



MACQUARIE
UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF ARTS



CMH

CENTRE FOR MEDIA HISTORY

FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT
2011-2012



CENTRE FOR MEDIA HISTORY

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Introduction

The Faculty of Arts at Macquarie University is home to Australia's first centre dedicated to conducting and fostering research on the interactions between media and history. Established in mid-2007, the Centre for Media History is interested in the history of the media, history in the media, and history and the media.

Macquarie University has nationally and internationally recognised strengths in the field of media history, including the history of the press, radio, television, film, censorship and public opinion, and in representations of history in film and broadcast media. The Centre for Media History's members, drawn from the Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations, the Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies, the Department of Sociology, the Department of English, and the Department of Business, have distinguished publication records and have been involved in the production of innovative television series, documentaries and films.

The Centre for Media History aims to:

- foster interdisciplinary approaches to the study of the media;
- support research and teaching of excellence in the field of media history;
- produce research in which our understanding of the past informs the important questions about contemporary media institutions, genres, audiences and policy;
- and provide a stimulating and supportive environment for postgraduate students and research fellows.

Advisory Board

The Advisory Board gives to the Centre for Media History's Management Committee, Director and Deputy Director advice, counsel, opinion, strategies, information and guidelines on matters relevant to opportunities for research into, and the study of, media history.

The members are:

- Professor Judyth Sachs (Chair), Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Provost
- Dr Jane Connors, Head, Industry Policy and Strategy, ABC Radio
- Mr Angelos Frangopoulos, CEO, Sky News Australia
- Professor Jock Given, Swinburne University of Technology*
- Professor Murray Goot
- Professor Bridget Griffen-Foley
- Michael Loebenstein, CEO, National Film and Sound Archive*
- Dr Virginia Madsen
- Professor John Simons (Deputy Chair), Executive Dean, Faculty of Arts

* new Member

A meeting was held on 29 May 2012.

Members

Full Members

- Professor Bridget Griffen-Foley (Director), Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations
- Professor Murray Goot, (Deputy Director), Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations
- Harvey Broadbent, Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations
- Dr Tanya Evans, Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations
- Dr Virginia Madsen, Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies
- Dr Shirleene Robinson, Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations*

* new Full Member

Associate Members

- Dr Michelle Arrow, Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations
- Chelsea Barnett, PhD candidate, Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations*
- Dr Maree Delofski, Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies
- Bruce Dennett, PhD candidate, Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations
- Dr Peter Doyle, Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies
- Dr Sofia Eriksson, Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations*
- Sandey Fitzgerald, PhD candidate, Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations
- Elisabeth Gould, PhD candidate, Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations
- Deborah Groarke, PhD candidate, Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations*
- Dr Kyle Harvey, Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations
- Madeleine Hastie, PhD candidate, Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations
- Dr Noëlle Janaczewska, PhD candidate, Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations*
- Mandy Kretzschmar, PhD candidate, Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations
- Dr Justine Lloyd, Department of Sociology
- Professor Kathryn Millard, Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies
- Alec Morgan, PhD candidate, Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies
- Dr Tom Murray, Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies
- David Myton, Coordinator, Public Relations/Macquarie Institute for Innovation
- Gaynor Nichols, PhD candidate, Department of Sociology*

- Don Perlgut, PhD candidate, Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies
- Associate Professor John Potts, Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies
- Tom Roberts, PhD candidate, Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations
- Dr Hsu-Ming Teo, Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations*
- Margaret Van Heekeren, PhD candidate, Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations /Charles Sturt University
- Can Yalcinkaya, PhD candidate, Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies
- Ms Jan Zwar, Department of English/Department of Economics

* new Associate Member

Management Committee and change to constitution

The members are:

- Dr Virginia Madsen (Chair)
- Harvey Broadbent
- Dr Tanya Evans
- Professor Murray Goot
- Professor Bridget Griffen-Foley
- Margaret Van Heekeren (representing Associate Members)

Meetings were held on 12 August 2011, 2 December 2011 and 28 March 2012. The next meeting is scheduled for 18 September 2012.

At its meeting on 2 December 2011, the Management Committee amended the Centre's constitution to enable up to two people 'with an established association with Macquarie University' to serve on the Management Committee.

Honorary Associates

Honorary Associates provide opportunities for linkages and exchanges with more established media history centres internationally, and are available for advice about current international research, conferences and funding opportunities. The Centre is pleased to have welcomed as new Associate Members within the past year, six scholars working on media history from three continents.

The Centre's Honorary Associates are:

- Steve Ahern, Ahern Media & Training Pty Ltd
- Professor Robert C. Allen, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill
- Associate Professor Frances Bonner, University of Queensland
- Professor Jane Chapman, Reader, School of Journalism, University of Lincoln
- Associate Professor Hugh Chignell, Director, Centre for Broadcasting History Research, Bournemouth University*

- Dr Martin Conboy, Co-Director, Department of Journalism Studies, University of Sheffield
- Associate Professor Robert Crawford, University of Technology, Sydney
- Professor Denis Cryle, Central Queensland University
- Professor James Curran, Goldsmiths, University of London*
- Dr Wendy Davis, Central Queensland University
- Dr Mary Debrett, La Trobe University
- Professor Jock Given, Swinburne University of Technology
- Professor Ann Gray, University of Lincoln
- Dr Jerome de Groot, University of Manchester
- Associate Professor Martin Hadlow, University of Queensland
- Associate Professor Chris Healy, University of Melbourne
- Dr Nick Herd, Australia Council*
- Professor Annette Hill, University of Westminster
- Professor Michele Hilmes, University of Wisconsin Madison
- Associate Professor Peter Horsfield, RMIT University
- Dr Rod Kirkpatrick, Australian Newspaper History Group*
- Professor Marnie Hughes-Warrington, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Australian National University
- Dr Toni Johnson-Woods, University of Queensland*
- Dr Chandrika Kaul, University of St Andrews
- Professor Sonja de Leeuw, Utrecht University
- Associate Professor Patrik Lundell, Lund University
- Associate Professor T. Mills Kelly, Associate Director, Center for History and New Media, George Mason University
- Professor Richard Maltby, Flinders University*
- Professor Iain McCalman AO, University of Sydney
- Associate Professor Nicole Moore, ADFA, University of New South Wales
- Dr Siân Nicholas, Co-Director, Media History Centre, University of Aberystwyth
- Professor Tom O'Malley, Co-Director, Media History Centre, University of Aberystwyth
- Dr Simon J. Potter, University of Bristol
- Dr Leonie Rutherford, Deakin University
- Dr Claire Scott, University of Wollongong
- Professor Brian Shoosmith, University of Liberal Arts, Bangladesh
- Professor John Sinclair, University of Melbourne
- Professor Dipankar Sinha, University of Calcutta
- Ettore Siracusa, Sydney College of the Arts, University of Sydney
- Professor Christina Slade, Vice-Chancellor, Bath Spa University*
- Professor Susan Smulyan, Brown University
- Professor Sean Street, Director, Centre for Broadcasting History Research, Bournemouth University
- Dr Melanie Swalwell, Flinders University
- Jolyon Sykes, University of South Australia
- Professor Sue Turnbull, University of Wollongong
- Dr Mark Turner, King's College London
- Dr Jason Wilson, University of Wollongong

*new Honorary Associate

PhD completions

The following 9 Associate Members submitted their PhD theses through their respective Departments:

- Tom Murray, 'Narrative Voice in Documentary', Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies;
- Sofia Eriksson, 'Observing the Birth of a Nation – British travel writing on Australia, 1870-1939', Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations;
- Don Perlgut, 'The Making of a Cultural Moment: Mel Gibson's *Passion* Goes to the Movies', Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies;
- Sandey Fitzgerald, 'Just Watching? Spectators, Politics and the Theatre Metaphor', Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations;
- Mandy Kretzschmar, 'Narrating the Other: Cultural Constructions of the European in the Australian Press – A Qualitative Analysis of the 1920s and 1960s', Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations;
- Margaret Van Heekeren, 'The dissemination of New Idealist thought in Australian print and radio media from 1885 to 1945', Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations;
- Jan Zwar, 'Cultural value and books in public debate in Australia 2003-2008', Departments of Economics and English;
- Kyle Harvey, 'The politics of difference: Radicals, moderates, and the U.S. anti-nuclear movement, 1979-1986', Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations;
- Liz Gould, 'Talk radio and the open-line: A history of commercial talkback radio in Australia', Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations.

Events

A special roundtable meeting was held on 12 August 2011 to hear about members' current research and projects, and to consider future directions for the Centre.

Associate Member Jan Zwar presented a paper titled 'Stirring debate: Books and publishing in the Howard years' in the Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations Seminar Series on 5 October 2011.

The joint launch of the Media Archives Project and Australian Media History databases was conducted by media buyer and philanthropist Mr Harold Mitchell AC, at Foxtel on 28 March 2012. (See p. 9)

The Centre co-sponsored, with the Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies, the presentation of a paper by Dr Tebbutt of La Trobe University titled 'Crisis at the office: ABC's foreign correspondents and TV current affairs (1979-1985)' on 9 May 2012.

Associate Member Michelle Arrow presented a paper titled '“I just feel it's important to know exactly what he went through”: *In Their Footsteps* and the work of emotions in Australian television history' in the Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations Seminar Series on 22 May 2012.

Major publications and productions

- Reaching Out or Going Down?: The History of Tabloids, special issue of *Australian Journal of Communication*, vol. 38, no. 2, September 2011, edited by Professors Murray Goot and Bridget Griffen-Foley, based on Centre workshop in September 2010. Among the authors are Centre members Murray Goot and Tom Roberts.
- Headliners: Early Australasian Press Biographies, special issue of *Australian Journalism Review*, vol. 33, no. 2, December 2011, edited by Professor Denis Cryle and Dr Liz Morrison, based on a Centre symposium in November 2010.
- Mediating rural and regional societies, special issue of *Rural Society*, vol. 21, no. 2, February 2012, co-edited by Margaret Van Heekeren, based on a CMH/CSU symposium on the centenary of *The Land* in May 2011.
- Kathryn Millard's film *Random 8*.
- Maree Delofski's film *Tanaka-san Will Not Do Callisthenics*.
- Noëlle Janaczewska's radio play *Seeking Mr Freud*.
- Don Perlmut's various television documentaries for the Rural Health Education Foundation.
- *A Companion to the Australian Media*, edited by Professor Griffen-Foley, will be published by Australian Scholarly Publishing in 2014. Invitations to 230 authors for 540 entries have been despatched, and the majority of entries has now been received. Centre members to contribute include Murray Goot (who is also on the Editorial Advisory Board), Michelle Arrow, Harvey Broadbent, Liz Gould, Madeleine Hastie, Justine Lloyd, Virginia Madsen, Don Perlmut, Tom Roberts and Margaret Van Heekeren: <http://scholarly.info/media/>

Competitive grants, fellowships and awards

- Tom Murray was awarded the Vice Chancellor's Commendation for Academic Excellence for his PhD thesis.
- Plays by Noëlle Janaczewska were short-listed for the Rodney Seaborn Playwrights' Award and Griffin Playwriting Award, while two radio productions were nominated for the AWGIE Award.
- At the presentation of the 2011 Macquarie University Research Awards, Professor Goot was made a Distinguished Professor.
- Professor Griffen-Foley was elected a Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities.
- The Centre supported applications for an American Council of Learned Societies Collaborative Research Fellowship and a Fulbright Scholarship. Both were unsuccessful.
- Through the MAP and AMH databases, the Centre participated in a successful bid to NeCTAR (National eResearch Collaboration Tools and Resources) for Humanities Networked Infrastructure (HuNI): Unlocking and Uniting Australia's Cultural Data. (See p. 9)

Media Archives Project

The MAP database was constructed by Informatics at a cost of \$14,000:

<https://mediaarchivesproject.mq.edu.au>

The 2011 Macquarie University Research Infrastructure Block Grant of \$78,037 was acquitted with the final report submitted in June 2012.

Centre Advisory Board member Angelos Frangopoulos hosted the launch of the MAP and Australian Media History databases, and Harold Mitchell AC presided over the launch, at FOXTEL on 28 March 2012. The launch was filmed by Sky News Australia, and covered by outlets including the *Australian*, *MediaWeek* (Sky Business Channel), 2GB, ABC 666 Canberra, the Australian Newspaper History Group Newsletter, <http://engage.acma.gov.au/>, <http://www.radioinfo.com.au/> and www.radiotoday.com.au/.



Angelos Frangopoulos, Professor Bridget Griffen-Foley and Harold Mitchell AC
at the MAP and AMHD launch, 28 March 2012

In the first quarter of 2012 the MAP Project Officer, Dr Nathalie Apouchtine, was engaged in a handover with Kyle Harvey, an Associate Member of the Centre and Professor Griffen-Foley's research assistant. Mr Harvey is now working limited hours on MAP, adding new material, answering queries, and ensuring the MAP contents can be harvested by Trove.

The funding application to NeCTAR (National eResearch Collaboration Tools and Resources) for Humanities Networked Infrastructure (HuNI): Unlocking and Uniting Australia's Cultural Data was successful. The request was for \$1.5m in 2012-13; \$1.33m was awarded. Macquarie University participated through the MAP and the AMHD databases. Macquarie University is contributing \$10,000 p.a.

Through MAP, the Centre identified collections at risk of disposal by individuals and organisations no longer able to keep them for lack of space or other reasons, and liaised with established collecting institutions to help find secure homes for these collections. Examples include:

- A large advertising collection, built up over nearly three decades by the John Bevins advertising agency, which has gone to the State Library of NSW and the National Film and Sound Archive;

- Material relating to nearly twenty years of work for Perth's *Daily News* by journalist Kay Maisey has found a home in the State Library of Western Australia;
- Some historic equipment held by camera operator Murray Scott Pollard has been added to the collection of the Australian Cinematographers Society;
- Artefacts from the work of Ann Davis in early children's television have been relocated to the Powerhouse Museum and the Seaborn, Broughton & Walford Foundation Archives and Performing Arts Collection.

Australian Media History Database

<http://www.amhd.info/>

In the second half of 2011 the Australian Media History Database was transferred from the University of Queensland to a server of the Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies at Macquarie University. The site was rebuilt and redesigned, with a new url. Considerable work has been put into updating and creating additional content for the AMHD.

The AMHD also provides a digital home for the Australian Newspaper History Group: <http://www.amhd.info/anhg/index.php>

Australian Media History listserv

<https://groups.google.com/a/mq.edu.au/group/amhlist/about>

The Australian Media History listserv was established in mid-2007. It is hosted at Macquarie University, with Professor Griffen-Foley as moderator. There are now 165 subscribers to the listserv.

External engagement

The Centre is a member of the International Association for Media and History.

The Centre is a member of the Consortium for Humanities Centers and Institutes (CHCI), and the Australian Consortium of Humanities Research Centres (ACHRC). In July 2011 Professor Bridget Griffen-Foley participated in a panel at the inaugural meeting of the ACHRC, held in Adelaide. She also attended the annual meeting of the ACHRC, held at the University of Technology, Sydney, and the annual meeting and conference of the CHCI, held at the Australian National University in June 2012.

Centre members sit on a range of boards and committees, including the board of the Public Interest Journalism Foundation, Swinburne University of Technology, and Sydney Educational Broadcasting; the advisory boards of the Screenwriting Research Network, and the Research Unit in Media Studies at Monash University; and the advisory committee for the Prime Minister's Prize for Australian History. Centre members also sit on the editorial advisory boards of *Media International Australia*, *Media History*, the *Historical Journal of Film, Radio and Television*, the *Journal of Screenwriting*, and the *Global Media Journal* (Australian edition).

Dr Tanya Evans was elected Vice-President of the History Council of NSW.

Associate Member Don Perlgut joined the board of the Public Interest Journalism Foundation, Swinburne University of Technology.

On 22 September 2011, Professor Griffen-Foley and Margaret Van Heekeren attended an invitation-only symposium on Media System, Political Context and Informed Citizenship: A Comparative Study, an 11-nation project led by Professor James Curran, Goldsmiths College, University of London, organised by the Centre for Cultural Research at the University of Western Sydney.

The Communications Policy and Research Forum was held in Sydney on 7-8 November 2011, with the CMH publicly acknowledged as a supporter. Professor Griffen-Foley served as a member of the Academic Review Panel.

Professor Griffen-Foley served as a member of the advisory committee for the Australian Media Traditions: Trends, Traditions and Transformations Conference, held at Swinburne University of Technology on 21-23 November 2011. Professor Griffen-Foley presented information sessions on the commissioning and publication process of *A Companion to the Australian Media*, and the Centre's impending launch of the AMHD and the MAP databases. Centre members Madeleine Hastie, Tom Roberts and Margaret Van Heekeren also presented papers. All delegates received a new Centre for Media History pen and brochure in their conference kits.

Honorary Associate, Professor Jane Chapman from Lincoln University, visited the Centre in June/July 2012. Opportunities for visits by Honorary Associates Ann Gray, Chandrika Kaul, Susan Smulyan and T. Mills Kelly were also explored.

Promotion

Individual members of the Centre have continued to provide expert commentary to the media, and their research projects and activities have received considerable media coverage.


A list of 'media mentions' of Centre members appears on the Centre's website:

http://www.mq.edu.au/research/centres_and_groups/cmh/media_mentions/

Website

http://www.mq.edu.au/research/centres_and_groups/cmh/

In the second half of 2011 the Centre's website was rebuilt to accord with Macquarie University's new content management system, and a new url was assigned. The website includes information about members, news, events, media mentions, courses, resources and the Media Archives Project. Edited audio of select papers presented to the Headliners symposium has also been uploaded. Soon the site will be expanded to include details of the publications and productions relating to media history authored or created by Centre Members.



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- Provide a stimulating and supportive environment for postgraduate students and research fellows.

Highlights




Annual Report 2010-2011

The Centre for Media History's Annual Report 2010-2011 is now available for download.




People

Meet our Members, our Board, and our Honorary Associates.



Media Archives

An exciting initiative to locate and access lesser known media archives, including those in private hands, across Australia.



Events

Conferences, talks and launches.

The number, duration and source of hits to the site are monitored by Google Analytics. In addition to Australia, over the last year the website has drawn between 200 and 400 hits a month from countries including Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Denmark, Egypt, France, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, the USA and the UK.

Thanks

I am particularly grateful to Deputy Director Professor Murray Goot and Associate Member Margaret Van Heekeren for their advice and assistance on a range of matters; Dr Nathalie Apouchtine for her work as the Media Archives Project Officer between 2010-12; and Tom Roberts for his work as the Centre's administrative officer.

Professor Bridget Griffen-Foley
Director

17 July 2012

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