



MACQUARIE  
UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF ARTS



CMH

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CENTRE FOR MEDIA HISTORY

ANNUAL REPORT  
2010-2011



# 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 and Cultural Studies, the Department of Sociology and the Department of Linguistics 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 Michelle Arrow
- Dr Jane Connors, Head, Industry Policy and Strategy, ABC Radio
- Mr Angelos Frangopoulos, CEO, Sky News Australia
- Professor Murray Goot
- Professor Bridget Griffen-Foley
- Ms Ann Landrigan, acting CEO, National Film and Sound Archive\*
- Dr Virginia Madsen\*
- Professor John Simons (Deputy Chair), Executive Dean, Faculty of Arts
- Professor Graeme Turner FAHA, University of Queensland

\* new Member

A meeting was held on 20 May 2011.

## **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
- Dr Michelle Arrow, 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 and Cultural Studies
- Professor Kathryn Millard, Department of Media, Music and Cultural Studies

\* new Full Member

### Associate Members

- Dr Maree Delofski, Department of Media, Music and Cultural Studies
- Bruce Dennett, PhD candidate, Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations
- Dr Peter Doyle, Department of Media, Music and Cultural Studies
- Sandey Fitzgerald, PhD candidate, Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations
- Elisabeth Gould, PhD candidate, Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations
- Kyle Harvey, PhD candidate, Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations
- Madeleine Hastie, PhD candidate, Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations
- Mandy Kretschmar, PhD candidate, Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations
- Dr Justine Lloyd, Department of Sociology
- Alec Morgan, PhD candidate, Department of Media, Music and Cultural Studies
- Tom Murray, PhD candidate, Department of Media, Music and Cultural Studies
- David Myton, Coordinator, Public Relations/Macquarie Institute for Innovation
- Don Perlgut, PhD candidate, Department of Media, Music and Cultural Studies
- Associate Professor John Potts, Department of Media, Music and Cultural Studies
- Tom Roberts, PhD candidate, 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 and Cultural Studies
- Ms Jan Zwar, Department of English/Department of Economics\*

\* new Associate Member

## **Management Committee**

The members are:

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

\* new Member

Meetings were held on 28 July 2010, 24 November 2010 and 17 March 2011. The next meeting is scheduled for 12 August 2011.

## **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
- Dr Jane Chapman, Reader, School of Journalism, University of Lincoln
- Dr Martin Conboy, Reader, Department of Journalism Studies, University of Sheffield
- Dr Robert Crawford, University of Technology, Sydney
- Professor Denis Cryle, Central Queensland University
- Dr Wendy Davis, Central Queensland University
- Dr Mary Debrett, La Trobe University
- Professor Ann Gray, University of Lincoln\*
- Dr Jerome de Groot, University of Manchester
- Professor Jock Given, Swinburne University
- Associate Professor Martin Hadlow, University of Queensland
- Associate Professor Chris Healy, University of Melbourne
- Professor Annette Hill, University of Westminster
- Professor Michele Hilmes, University of Wisconsin Madison
- Associate Professor Peter Horsfield, RMIT University
- Professor Marnie Hughes-Warrington, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Learning and Teaching), Monash University
- Dr Chandrika Kaul, University of St Andrews
- Dr Rod Kirkpatrick, Australian Newspaper History Group
- 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 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, National University of Ireland Galway
- Dr Leonie Rutherford, Deakin University
- Dr Claire Scott, University of Wollongong
- Professor Brian Shoemith, 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, London City 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

## Events

Professor Murray Goot presented a paper entitled “‘A Worse Importation than Chewing Gum’: American Influences on the Australian Press and their Limits - The Australian Gallup Poll, 1941-1973’ in the Department of Politics Seminar Series on 27 August 2010.

The Centre held a workshop, ‘Reaching Out or Going Down? The History of Tabloids’, on 24 September 2010, with around 30 people attending. Select papers from the workshop will be published in a special issue of the *Australian Journal of Communication*, edited by Murray Goot and Bridget Griffen-Foley, in September 2011.

Dr Michelle Arrow presented a paper entitled ‘The Making History Initiative: Australian history on television in the Howard Era’ in the Department of Modern History’s Histories on Wednesday Seminar Series on 3 November 2010.

A symposium sponsored by the Centre entitled ‘Headliners: Early Australasian Press Biographies’ was held on 23 November 2010 at the State Library of New South Wales. Convened by Professor Denis Cryle and Dr Liz Morrison, it focused on the contribution that individual and collective biographies have made to the history of the press and communications in Australia and the region. Select papers from the symposium will be published in a special issue of *Australian Journalism Review* in December 2011.



CMH members Tom Roberts, Margaret Van Heekeren, Harvey Broadbent, Bridget Griffen-Foley and Murray Goot at the Headliners symposium.

Dr Michelle Arrow organised a seminar entitled 'Remix History: The Digital Future of the Past', about teaching history in digital environments, featuring Associate Member of the Centre, Dr T. Mills Kelly of George Mason University, Virginia, on 2 May 2011.

With Charles Sturt University's School of Communication and Creative Industries, the Centre co-hosted a two day interdisciplinary symposium, 'The Land: Past, Present and Future', in Bathurst on 5-6 May 2011 to mark the centenary of *The Land* newspaper. Convened by CMH Associate Member Margaret Van Heekeren, and attended by Deputy Director Professor Murray Goot, the event brought together media scholars to reflect on how the media sees rural and regional Australia. Papers drawn from the symposium will be published in a special issue, 'Mediating Rural Regional Societies', edited by Ms Van Heekeren, Associate Member Don Perlgut, and Sue Wood, of *Rural Society* in 2012.



Dr Tim Sherratt of the National Museum of Australia presenting at the The Land symposium.

On 18 May 2011 the Centre joined with the State Library of New South Wales to host the launch of the special April issue of *History Australia* on 'History in Popular Culture'. Dr Michelle Arrow and Professor Bridget Griffen-Foley contributed articles to the issue, edited by Dr Hsu-Ming Teo (Macquarie University) and Richard White (University of Sydney), and spoke at the launch.

## Major publications and productions

Major works published and produced by Full and Associate Members during the year include:

- Articles by Professor Murray Goot, Professor Bridget Griffen-Foley and Dr Virginia Madsen appeared in the special 'Internationalising Australian Media History' 2010 issue of the *Historical Journal of Film, Radio and Television* (ERA rank A) based on select papers from the 2009 Australian Media Traditions Conference.
- *After the Event: New Perspectives on Art History* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2010), co-edited by John Potts.
- The Centre Director, Professor Bridget Griffen-Foley, reached an agreement with Australian Scholarly Publishing for the publication of *A Companion to the Australian Media*. Featuring over 500 articles by 200 leading Australian media practitioners and scholars, and funded by an ARC Discovery Grant, this comprehensive, authoritative reference work on Australia's press, broadcasting and new media sectors will be published by ASP in 2014. See: <http://scholarly.info/media/>

Award shortlistings include:

- Dr Michelle Arrow's book *Friday on Our Minds: Popular Culture in Australia Since 1945* was shortlisted for the 2010 NSW Premier's History Awards.
- Professor Bridget Griffen-Foley's book *Changing Stations: The Story of Australian Commercial Radio* was shortlisted for the 2011 Blake Dawson Prize for Business Literature, and longlisted for the 2010 Walkley Book Award.

Keynote addresses and public lectures presented by Full and Associate Members include:

- Dr Michelle Arrow, inaugural PopCAANZ Conference, Sydney, 1 July 2010.
- Professor Bridget Griffen-Foley presented the Annual History Lecture at Government House, Sydney, 3 September 2010, and the Henry Mayer Lecture at the University of Queensland, 16 September 2010.
- Associate Professor John Potts, The Unacceptable Conference, Macquarie University, April 2011.

## Competitive grants, fellowships and awards

Competitive grants, fellowships and awards for Full and Associate Members include:

- Dr Michelle Arrow was awarded \$21,878 under Macquarie University's Teaching Delivery Grants Scheme for a project researching the teaching of historical skills online.
- Dr Virginia Madsen was awarded a Macquarie University New Staff Grant for 'The other new wave: sounding out invisible forms, the documentary project in radio: an international study'.
- The Centre was awarded a 2011 Macquarie University Research Infrastructure Block Grant for \$78,037 for the Media Archives Project.

## Media Archives Project

Professor Bridget Griffen-Foley (lead Chief Investigator) and Dr Michelle Arrow, Dr Kate Gleeson and Professor Murray Goot successfully applied for a Macquarie University



Research Infrastructure Block Grant of \$78,037 to extend the Media Archives Project into a full-scale, national study in 2011. Dr Nathalie Apouchtine, who conducted the pilot study, continues as the MAP project officer. Email: map@mq.edu.au

Over the past year considerable publicity for MAP has been generated, the search for media archives in private hands has continued, and relationships with organisations such as the National Film and Sound Archive, the National Library of Australia, the Noel Butlin Archives Centre at the ANU, and the State Library of New South Wales have further developed. Through the efforts of MAP, individuals and companies who were found to be considering disposing of archival material have been put in touch with appropriate collecting institutions.

As information on archival collections has been found, it has been added into a draft database. A full, online MAP database will be launched by the Centre in late 2011.

### **External engagement**

The Centre is a member of the International Association for Media and History, and a member of the Consortium for Humanities Centers and Institutes. In February 2010 at Flinders University Professor Bridget Griffen-Foley attended a meeting of centre directors to discuss the formation of an Australasian chapter of the CHCI, and in July 2011 she will be participating in a panel at the inaugural meeting of the Australian Consortium of Humanities Research Centres.

The Communications Policy and Research Forum was held in Sydney on 15-16 November 2010, with the Centre publicly acknowledged as a supporter. Professor Bridget Griffen-Foley served as a member of the Academic Review Panel.

Between 6-10 December 2010, Professor Murray Goot was a University of Canberra Distinguished Visitor working with the Public Communication Research Cluster.

Dr Michelle Arrow is the exhibitions reviews editor of *History Australia*. Professor Bridget Griffen-Foley is on the editorial advisory boards of the *Global Media Journal* (Australian edition), the *Historical Journal of Film, Radio and Television*, *Media History* and *Media International Australia*, and the advisory board of the Research Unit in Media Studies at Monash University. She also advised the Media, Entertainment and Arts Alliance on plans to mark the centenary of the Australian Journalists' Association in December 2010. Professor Kathryn Millard is on the editorial advisory board of the *Journal of Screenwriting* and the advisory board of the Screenwriting Research Network. Don Pergult is on the board of the Public Interest Journalism Foundation, Swinburne University of Technology. Associate Professor John Potts is on the board of Sydney Educational Broadcasting.

Honorary Associate, Professor Jane Chapman from Lincoln University, was a Visiting Professor in the Centre from October 2010 to January 2011, and from June to July 2011. During her stay she presented a number of papers and public lectures, and curated an exhibition, *India, Past, Present and Abroad*, highlighting how the research process led to the rediscovery of a number of forgotten newspaper archives in the country.

## **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.humanities.mq.edu.au/cmh/media.php>

## **Website**

[www.humanities.mq.edu.au/cmh/](http://www.humanities.mq.edu.au/cmh/)

The website includes information about members, news, events, media mentions, courses and resources; links to related sites, including *A Companion to the Australian Media* and the Media Archives Project; and a downloadable flyer. Current updating and expansion of the site will provide details of the publications and productions relating to media history authored or created by Centre Members.

In 2011 the Australian Media History Database was migrated from the University of Queensland to Macquarie University where it will shortly be accessible from the Centre's website. Considerable work has been put into updating and creating additional content for the AMHD, including a number of new resource databases.

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 for his advice on a range of matters; Associate Member Margaret Van Heekeren for her generous assistance with the Media Archives Project, and for convening The Land symposium; Dr Kate Gleeson for agreeing to become a Chief Investigator on the MAP RIBG application; and Dr Nathalie Apouchtine for her hard work as the MAP project officer.

Dr Matthew Bailey did a sterling job as administrator of the Centre from its inception in mid-2007 until his resignation in February 2011. He has been replaced by a valued Associate Member of the Centre, Tom Roberts.

**Professor Bridget Griffen-Foley**  
**Director**

**29 July 2011**

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