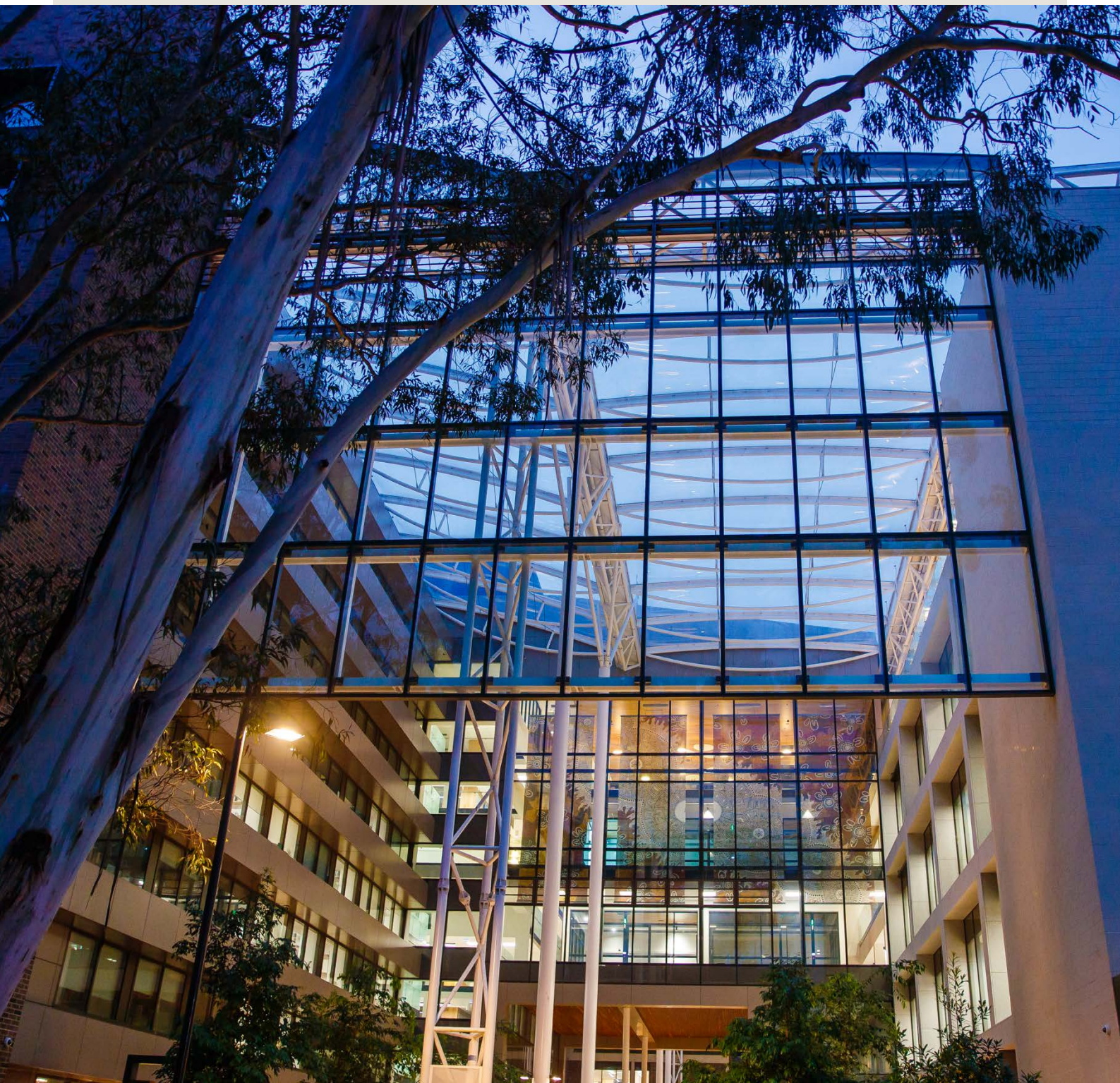




# Annual Report 2022

## School of Social Sciences

The School of Social Sciences conducts cutting edge research that seeks to understand and engage with a complex and rapidly changing world.





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*We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the Macquarie University land, the Wattamattagal clan of the Darug nation, whose cultures and customs have nurtured and continue to nurture this land, since the Dreamtime. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and future.*

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## Welcome from the Interim Dean

The Macquarie School of Social Sciences was founded in 2020, bringing together four separate departments. The foundation established a clear home for the social sciences at Macquarie. The moment hardly appeared auspicious: we were all struggling with multiple crises and profound change, a major restructuring of our curriculum was already underway when COVID-19 struck, borders were closed, and public health measures threw us all into prolonged isolation. The School scarcely had a new senior team in place when we were interrupted almost immediately by our Dean assuming leadership of the Faculty of Arts, and I had the opportunity to step in as Interim Dean.

Members of the School would be forgiven if we had been cautious and sought primarily to preserve our programs and research agendas. We could have stayed metaphorically indoors through what seemed like a period of turbulence and storms just as we literally had to stay in our homes.

In fact, the foundation of our School has inspired a startling explosion of creativity in research, innovations in our teaching program, vitality in research training, and new channels of communication and cooperation. Being able to serve in leadership at this time has been an opportunity over and over again to be reminded of the dedication and talent of members of our School. I continue to be inspired by my colleagues, many of whom you will learn more about in this report.

The creation of the Macquarie School of Social Sciences has helped increase the visibility of social research at the University, clarifying just what a centre of teaching and research excellence our programs are. The depth and diversity of achievement are apparent in this Annual Report, which I am pleased to share with you, the evidence of our community's strong commitment to teaching, research, training, and scholarship.



Professor Greg Downey, Interim Dean, School of Social Sciences

## Disciplinary Reflections

### ANTHROPOLOGY

Anthropologists at Macquarie University specialise in sociocultural anthropology and the discipline has long held a reputation for being one of the most vibrant and dynamic homes of anthropology in Australia. We continue to produce highly innovative research valued for its theoretical contributions and practical impact.

The pandemic impacted on staff members' capacity to carry out ethnographic data collection, which relies heavily on immersion in communities both inside and outside of Australia. (Notably, however, Professor Lisa Wynn turned the pandemic into a research opportunity in of itself, securing ARC funding for an important study on cultural conceptions of contagion.) Widespread international travel resumed in 2022. Anthropology staff seized the chance to start new ARC-funded field research, to resume long-delayed field studies and to take up a prestigious international fellowship at Aarhus University, Denmark, in A/Prof Jaap Timmer's case. Exciting new grant success was also enjoyed in 2022: Professor Greg Downey is one of the lead researchers in an international team funded by the John Templeton Foundation, which seeks to integrate an account of culture into evolutionary theory.

While research activity characterised 2022, Anthropology continued to deliver stimulating and highly regarded units to students across the Faculty and beyond it, offering cross-cultural perspectives on faith, gender, sexuality, illness, health and food.



Dr Eve Vincent, Discipline Chair Anthropology

### GEOGRAPHY AND PLANNING

Geography and Planning conducts leading-edge research in national and international contexts and make key theoretical and practical contributions to understanding how social, cultural, economic, and political elements interplay to shape the world around us. The Discipline had some wonderful achievements in 2022 with prestigious awards, successful grants, and public art exhibitions.

Some of the highlights include A/Prof Emily O'Gorman winning the Faculty of Arts Research Excellence Prize and HDR student Milena Bojovic winning the Faculty of Arts 3-minute thesis competition. A/Prof Emily O'Gorman was awarded an ARC Future Fellowship 'Protecting Global Wetlands, 1945-Present' and A/Prof Donna Houston, A/Prof Kate Lloyd, Dr Miriam Williams and Dr Justine Lloyd (Sociology) were awarded an ARC Linkage Project 'The Power of Public Spaces to Connect Communities and Places for Resilient Futures'.

Geographers also had a successful and productive year with industry and government partnered research on the community impacts of the floods in the Northern Rivers region of NSW (Dr Mel Taylor and A/Prof Fiona Miller); the drivers and outcomes of public housing relocation (Prof Kristian Ruming) and the nutritional impacts of plant-based meat (A/Prof Andrew McGregor).

Geographers were also involved in bids for Macquarie University consilience research centres and grants, with Dr Andrew BurrIDGE winning a Faculty of Arts consilience grant for an interdisciplinary project on hotel detention in Australia. Geography is in the top 150 subjects world-wide and equal-8<sup>th</sup> in Australia in the 2023 QS World University rankings.

Associate Professor Donna Houston, Discipline Chair Geography and Planning



## POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Politics and International Relations at Macquarie is a dynamic community of scholars and students who study some of the most pressing contemporary challenges. In this past year our published research has explored: developmental environmentalism, the geopolitics of energy, institutional responses to climate change, diaspora politics and literature, uneven and combined developed, migration and borders, the relationship between religion, science and politics, political extremism, liberalization of professions, and foreign policy decision-making around AUKUS. We teach politics, public policy, and international relations in both undergraduate and graduate programs, which have continued to receive excellent evaluations in the most recent QUILT student experience survey.

With the relaxation of travel restrictions Jumana Bayeh and Steve Wood were able to take up international fellowships at the University of Lyon and Hamburg University (via the Alexander von Humboldt Fellowship) respectively, while several other colleagues and students deepened a research partnership with the University of Groningen – a strategic partner of Macquarie University. Kate Gleeson, Ian Tregenza, Eleni Poulos and Shaun Wilson (Sociology) hosted a successful APSA-sponsored workshop on 'Religion and Politics after the Marriage Equality Referendum'. Together with colleagues from across the School, Politics colleagues began a fruitful collaboration with Applied Biosciences which has already seen two projects secure external funding. Sung-Young Kim delivered one of the major outputs of his collaborative ARC grant through publication of the co-authored book *Developmental environmentalism: state ambition and creative destruction in East Asia's green energy transition* with Oxford University Press (2023).

Dr Jon Symons, Discipline Chair Politics and International Relations

## SOCIOLOGY

Sociology has contributed to the strength of the sociological profession in national terms and delivered a relevant and critical sociology curriculum to its undergraduate and graduate students. Teaching priorities reflect the sociology of multiculturalism and migration, economic sociology, movements for social change, critical analysis of resilience, sociological theory in classical and contemporary form, the sociology of work and education, and sociology of children, and in-depth training in a range of contemporary methodologies and software. Gender Studies remains an important hub for bringing together feminist and gender-sensitive

research across the University and the undergraduate program remains highly evaluated by its student cohort. Macquarie staff continue to perform well in international research rankings in this field.

Particularly gratifying were new grant successes. Dr Randa Abdel-Fattah achieved an ARC Future Fellowship in 2022 and there was success in the ARC Discovery round (Velayutham, Wise, Wilson, Ebert and Harrigan). Respective projects will study the history of Arab Australians and the precarious experiences of temporary migrant labour in Australia. Several Macquarie Acceleration grants were awarded to teams involved Sociology staff (Fattore on the theme of campus safety for children; Lloyd on post-Covid borders; and Wilson on religion, social change, and politics). Staff have also successfully published with PhD candidates, including in major journals like *Social Science & Medicine*. Along with Political Science, Sociology continues to maintain a top 10 ranking among Australian universities in the Scimago global discipline rankings for two years in a row.

Associate Professor Shaun Wilson, Discipline Chair Sociology.





# Research

## Reflections on Research in 2022

The School of Social Sciences had a very productive and successful year in research in 2022. Having collaboratively drafted the School Research Strategy with a multidisciplinary team in 2021 we began implementing it in 2022. The Research Strategy was based on five key principles: simplicity, respect, community, impact and care. Care was particularly important as the School slowly emerged from the pandemic and staff sought to rekindle research plans and relationships after months of disruption and difficulties.

Our priorities for 2022 were to develop a dynamic and supportive School research culture, build strong internal and external relationships, increase the number and diversity of grant and fellowship applications submitted, and bolster the reputation of social sciences research at MQ. To that end we pursued a variety of new initiatives. These included: twice weekly writing groups; four new thematic research groups based on school research strengths; five new research labs focused on skills development; a grants development panel that ran a grants workshop and grant pitch sessions; a Social Sciences grants database; and a new twitter account which has over 500 followers. We also ran several high-profile research events through the year, including a series of events during Social Sciences Week.

The enthusiasm with which staff have pursued research during this difficult period has been inspirational and is reflected in their achievements. In 2022 we received two ARC Future Fellowships, two ARC Discovery Grants, an ARC Linkage grant, a major Templeton grant, a large Natural Hazards Research Australia grant, a Macquarie University Research Fellowship as well as a range of smaller external and internal grants. We also developed a strategic relationship with Applied Biosciences as a means of diversifying the research opportunities available to staff. Staff were active in arranging research events, publishing books, writing journal articles and book chapters, winning awards, and influencing public discourse through engagements with traditional and social media.

Our efforts have been recognised in international ranking assessments with all four disciplines improving their positions across multiple schemes. Social sciences at MQ climbed to 132 in the world in the 2022 QS World Rankings.

In what follows we detail some of the highlights of what has been a dynamic year for the School in research. I hope you enjoy it and congratulate all staff for their incredible efforts in 2022.

Associate Professor Andrew McGregor  
Director of Research and Innovation.





# School Research Strengths

In 2022 the School identified four thematic areas where we have strong expertise and outstanding track records in grants and publications. These areas of research strength provide opportunities for researchers from across the School to come together in multidisciplinary groups to develop supportive networks, exchange ideas and proposals, and discuss key concepts and readings.

## DIVERSITY AND SOCIETY

The Diversity and Society research group analyse the inequalities and discrimination resulting from the intersections of gender with other social identity categories, and explore religious and cultural diversity, focusing on the lived experiences of co-existence in our cities, leisure spaces, and workplaces. The relationships between gender, religion, culture, and the state animates work on religious politics and social movements, moral communities, faith, state bureaucracies, secularism, and religious freedom. The group also address forces shaping global migration including labour, supply-chains, economic and social aspirations of migrants, involuntary migration and resettlement, as well as mechanisms to control, channel and curtail people movement at national, regional and global levels. Research spans Australia, Turkey, Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, Solomon Islands, India, Singapore, Tunisia, and the US.

Key research areas include:

- religion, culture, state and society;
- liberalism, secularism, multiculturalism, religious freedom, and discrimination;
- faith communities and social movements;
- religious chauvinism, nationalisms, racisms, and identarian movements;
- gender, intersectionality, and inequalities;
- conflict and everyday co-existence in diverse societies (cultures, religions, race);
- global migration and human mobility - including forced migration, labour migration, elite mobilities; forces prompting these flows and state responses to them; experiences and survival strategies of migrants, consequences for receiving and sending societies;
- global cities, diversity and urban life; and
- global flows and transformations of tangible and intangible cultural forms, including the movement and encounters between ideas, moral communities, values, commodities, material cultures, food, music, and media.



## ENVIRONMENTS AND SOCIETY

Rapidly changing socioecological conditions are creating new complexities that require reimagining how humans interact with the world. The Environments and Societies research group responds to these challenges by focusing on past, current and possible future society-environment relations and their implications for people, places, and life of all kinds. Our researchers draw on a range of Indigenous, cross-cultural, interdisciplinary,



geographical, historical and philosophical methods that bridge theory and practice, and emphasise the importance of engaging and collaborating with diverse communities and publics. Researchers are committed to critical research that highlights social, economic and environmental injustices whilst also fostering resilient ways of coexisting and living well within multi-species communities.

Our research examines the social, cultural and political dimensions of society-environment relations and includes work on:

- experiences and responses to climate change, disasters and environmental extremes;
- just transitions and global governance within energy, food and agricultural sectors;
- Indigenous-led on-Country learning;
- diverse environmental knowledges and values;
- extinction, loss, displacement and relations of care and repair;
- Indigenous, more-than-human, and multi-species approaches to place;
- environmental policy and politics;
- uneven production of ecological, social and economic crises; and
- inequality, racism and environmental injustices.

## URBAN WORLDS

The Urban Worlds group addresses conceptual and policy challenges related to the way our cities are planned, governed and experienced. Our approach is based on a transformative politics and dedication to improving urban futures through enabling justice and care in the city. Urban Worlds research draws together critical urban theory and planning practice to investigate the ways cities are managed and experienced by urban stakeholders, including policy makers, private sector actors, communities and a diverse array of non-human actors.

Central to our research is a multi-scalar lens which sees cities in relation to local, national and global practices and processes. We are dedicated to improving the policy and practices of urban governance through applied, comparative and collaborative research with governments, non-government organisations and communities which address real world urban issues.

Some of our areas of research strength include:

- cities of care
- urban regeneration and resilience
- multi-species cities
- digital urbanism/smart cities
- place-making
- public spaces
- urban food initiatives
- urban settlement; cities of sanctuary; urban refuge and asylum
- cities, justice and climate change
- urban governance
- gender and urbanism
- home and housing
- urban borders/bordering
- carceral urbanism.





## WORK, INEQUALITY AND WELLBEING

Work, paid and unpaid, is central to our identities and wellbeing and to social inequalities. Rates of casual and piecemeal employment have risen dramatically since the 1980s. Simultaneously, work has been made more egalitarian through efforts at equal pay that have partially broken-down strong gender and racial hierarchies within the labour market. We are interested in mapping, theorising and documenting the social and lived effects of these transformations.

Social policy has undergone similar transformations that facilitate and complicate the transformation of work. Care and education have expanded and moved into the formal economy, while simultaneously being subject to competition and marketisation. Workfare disciplines labour, often via private interests, and reinforces racial and gendered inequalities.

As states govern through markets, new metrics have developed to both advance competition and challenge market prices. Wellbeing has emerged as an alternative goal to economic growth, and a measurable objective for policy makers and managers as they govern public health and encourage social investment, fostering spaces of 'social innovation' that seek to combine finance and wellbeing. However, wellbeing, in its definition, dimensions and delivery, remains a contested policy issue of vital interest to social scientists.

We examine the social and political implications of all these related processes, drawing together a range of social science perspectives including economic and political geography, social theory, economic and political sociology, ethnographic approaches, socio-legal studies and policy studies.

Our key areas of research strength include:

- changes to work and employment relations;
- marketisation within the welfare state and 'workfare';
- housing, planning and spatial inequality;
- inequalities, marginalisation and access to justice;
- the rise of finance and inequalities of income and wealth;
- social attitudes to inequality, democracy, and welfare;
- globalisation, global inequalities, and post-colonialism;
- neoliberalism and responses to neoliberalism; and
- definitions of well-being and the implication of well-being approaches to population outcomes.



# Research labs

In 2022 the School also formed five new research labs. The labs are networks of researchers united by shared interests and expertise in particular research methods or approaches to research. They highlight some of the skills and capacities within the School and provide forums where these approaches can be further refined and upskilled.

## ART ETHNOGRAPHY LAB

The Art Ethnography lab focuses on the interface between ethnography (qualitative research methods) and art, exploring poetry, fine arts (including and moving beyond photography, film, and multi-media to incorporate comics, drawing, painting, printing, sculpture etc), and performance arts (including dance, music, hip-hop, soundscapes etc) as an ethnographic practice, method, and experience.

The lab offers a shared space for collaboration and inspiration within the School, while creating networks with other MQ departments (such as the Art Gallery, and the Department of Media, Music and Communication Studies). It conducts collaborative projects and community outreach, and encourages researchers, students and invited artists, as well as the public, to develop projects together and explore multimodal ethnography as a research method. The lab aims to host workshops, exhibitions, and performances in collaboration with MQ Art Gallery, thereby extending possibilities for community participation and outreach.

Participants engage with

questions like: “How can the synergy between ethnography and art help us think about complex social processes, from climate change and species extinction to racialization, refugee rights, and collective memory?” (Stainova and Craig 2021). In particular, participants pursue new ways of understanding the meanings that are produced in art ethnographic work, and how the fusion of different mediated art forms, practices and experiences engages with and produces ‘multi-semiotic’ ways of being in the world.





### AUSTRALIAN BASIC INCOME LAB

The Australian Basic Income Lab (ABI) aims to become the preeminent hub for basic income research and outreach in the Asia-Pacific region. Growing interest in basic income reflects widespread concern over entrenched poverty, insecure work and rising inequality. Basic income pilots, political campaigns and 'natural experiments' have raised the profile of basic income and attracted the attention of diverse researchers from around the world.

The ABI Lab brings together researchers in the Macquarie School of Social Sciences with leading researchers from the Crawford School at the Australian National University and Sydney University's School of Social Sciences, as well as others across the Macquarie campus. We explore different responses to poverty, inequality, economic insecurity, and conditionality, using Basic Income as a lens to imagine different futures.

ABI partners with academics, civil society organisations, governments, unions and business to inform and advance interdisciplinary research and public debate regarding a new social and economic security agenda. Our seminar series, workshops and public events with leading local and international scholars, policymakers and other stakeholders contribute critical insights and



diverse perspectives on the basic income debate.

For more information please see:

[www.ausbasicincome.org/](http://www.ausbasicincome.org/)

We welcome enquiries and opportunities for collaborative or funded research projects and have particular expertise in:

- assessing poverty, income and wealth inequalities
- ecological transitions
- automation, precarity and the future of work
- comparative welfare state and social security systems
- social security and tax system design
- social impacts of welfare systems
- basic income experiments.

### MICROETHNOGRAPHY LAB



The Microethnography Lab in the MQ School of Social Sciences supports digitally-enhanced observational field research, with a special focus on studying skills, including intercultural interaction, performance, perception, adaptive dispositions, habitus acquisition, and practical learning. Projects include research on work, music composition, martial arts like muay Thai and tai chi, sports including mountain biking, cricket, and informal sport, skills in sensory perception, spatial navigation, dance, and communities of practice in craft, sport, and field science.

The researchers in the lab use rigorous qualitative and observational research techniques, especially low-cost video and audio recordings as well as other widely-available tools to enhance ethnographic research. Although the techniques can be used more broadly, we have a current focus on cognitive ecology, distributed cognition, social

interaction research, and neuroanthropology.

The Microethnography Lab is now facilitating the research for the project, "Concepts in Dynamic Assemblages: Cultural Evolution and the Human Way of Being," funded by a major grant from the John Templeton Foundation. We also support partner-based research with businesses and non-governmental organisations.

We welcome enquiries and opportunities for collaborative or funded research projects and have particular expertise in:

- user research
- interaction and performance analysis
- the study of learning environments, especially for skills and sports.

### SHADOW PLACES NETWORK

The Shadow Places Network is a network of scholars, artists and activists who collaborate to document, co-produce and reimagine connections between places and peoples in an era of climate change. The network seeks to make visible the place-based, material and imaginative structures, practices and relations that sustain the exploitative capitalist system, and the modern global history of colonisation, that underpin climate change. These structures, practices and relations actively construct a geography of injustice constituted of multiple shadow places.

Simultaneously the network seeks to document and reimagine more just and ethical connections and understandings of place. We are committed to transnational, cross-cultural, cross-disciplinary and more-than-human collaborations, and invite the open participation of others committed to environmental justice and to find new ways of imagining, organising and practicing collaborative enquiry and environmental activism.

For more information please see: [www.shadowplaces.net/](http://www.shadowplaces.net/)



### SOCIAL POLICY EVALUATION LAB

The Social Policy Evaluation Lab applies evaluation theory to advance evidence-informed social policy development and practice. Social policy can be broadly understood as government interventions that aim to increase the wellbeing of individuals, families, and society at large.

Social policies assist people at particular times of life (such as parenting or retirement) and when they have claims to enable their active participation in society. These policies take many forms, including a wide array of policy instruments, programs and projects that involve

the public, non-profit or private sectors.

Among the actions of government that have most bearing on the everyday lives of citizens, social policies provide support for retirement, families, disabilities, housing, health, education and more.

Quality evidence of 'what works' is crucial (such as gaining education, accessing paid employment) to inform the development of effective and efficient policy. This is particularly crucial in the field of social policy, considering the life-changing potential of support for consumers, the wide range of program design choices, and the limited funds available.

The Social Policy Evaluation Lab contributes to evidence-informed practice by developing, sharing, and innovating applied social science methods to systematically assess social policies at any stage of their development (before, during or after implementation) including impact assessments. The lab seeks to disseminate practical information on applied social science methods, strengthen research and policy networks, and connect academics with partners in the public and private sectors to develop collaborations.

We welcome enquiries and opportunities for collaborative or funded research projects on all aspects of social policy. We have considerable domestic and international experience





undertaking applied research with community, government and industry partners and have advanced expertise in all aspects of social research, including:

- qualitative, quantitative and mixed methods research: e.g., survey design, qualitative interviews, focus group discussions etc.;
- community and stakeholder consultation;
- monitoring and evaluation;
- formal assessment, including social impact assessment, vulnerability assessment, gender-sensitive evaluations;
- intensive training on social research methods and frameworks;
- mentoring support, including feedback on instruments, reports, etc.; and
- research communication and dissemination.





# Selection of grants

In 2022 School researchers were successful in securing a diverse range of grants to fund their research (see Appendix A for a list). We were involved in several high-profile prestigious grants as well as much smaller ones that enable research to keep driving forward.

## ARAB/MUSLIM AUSTRALIAN SOCIAL MOVEMENTS SINCE THE 1970S: A HIDDEN HISTORY

Researchers: Randa Abdel-Fattah

Amount: \$802,000

Funding body / Scheme: ARC, Future Fellowship

Social movement scholars have produced rich histories, archives and analysis of protest and social movement activism in Australia— from feminism to anti-war movements, to labour rights and environmental protection (Burgmann 1993; Scalmer 2002; Piccini 2016; Piccini et al 2019; Burgmann and Wheatley 2021). This body of work has mapped the changing boundaries of Australian radicalism and the role of intellectuals in the development of radical thought and practice (Booth et al 2005). And yet, diaspora activism 'remains largely unchronicled in Australia' (Battiston 2019; Ho 2008; Goodall and Ghosh 2019; Kalantzis 1988), particularly social movements based on intersectional, decolonial, transnational, solidarity activism. Rarely are such social movements approached as sites of activism indispensable to understanding how Australian democratic institutions and political culture have been reshaped from Australia's racialized, gendered and classed margins.

This project seeks to recuperate this invisible yet constitutive part of Australia's activist polity from the point of view of a sub-set of diaspora activists: Arab/Muslim Australians. The project seeks to recover previously untapped oral histories and rare archival collections of Arab/Muslim Australian activists working in anti-racism, anti-war and feminist social movements from the 1970s to date. The overall aim of this project is to advance the field of social movement scholarship in Australia through investigating Arab/Muslim

intersectional, decolonial, transnational, solidarity activism as a constitutive dimension of Australian political culture and social movement participation.





### PROTECTING GLOBAL WETLANDS, 1945 TO THE PRESENT

Researchers: Emily O'Gorman

Amount: \$811,055

Funding body / Scheme: ARC Future Fellowship

Focusing on the period from 1945 to the present, this project will develop the first in-depth environmental history of international wetlands conservation. The Ramsar Convention was ground-breaking in international efforts to save wetlands and will provide the central case study. The project will use archival and historical collections associated with the Ramsar Convention, interviews, and oral histories to examine the expertise and values that shaped international wetlands conservation since 1945. Building on a broad set of approaches from the environmental humanities, this project will focus its novel analysis on three key environmental concepts that have profoundly shaped and been shaped by global wetlands conservation agendas: ecosystems, animal migration, and wise use. Critical analysis of sources and concepts will situate the Ramsar Convention within earlier histories of environmental and wetlands conservation as well as contemporary efforts. Anticipated outcomes include a clearer understanding of why wetlands became a focus of international conservation and the consequences. Ultimately, this historical research will inform new ways of approaching international wetlands conservation into the future by examining the changing uses, consequences, and limits of the Ramsar Convention, and fostering new interdisciplinary approaches.



### CONCEPTS IN DYNAMIC ASSEMBLAGES: CULTURAL EVOLUTION AND THE HUMAN WAY OF BEING

Research team: Agustín Fuentes (Princeton), Greg Downey (MSSS), John Sutton, Alex Gillett, Sara Hjortborg (MSSS), and Laura McLauchlan (MSSS).

Amount: US \$3,244,981

Funding body / Scheme: John Templeton Foundation

Culture makes human reason and human ways of life possible, but how do we integrate an account of culture into evolutionary theory? In most conventional attempts up until now, cultural elements are treated as isolated traits, as if they can be transmitted separately and selected independently. In contrast, cultural theory from fields like anthropology focus on how integrated cultures are, how ideas, material culture, skills, language, technology, and other aspects of community life affect each other and are woven together.

This project attempts to fundamentally change the way evolutionary theory takes account of culture, integrating insights from cultural anthropology, by focusing on how concepts and the ability to conceptualise alter developmental, social, practical, and evolutionary dynamics. Perhaps most radically, the research team looks at the way that concepts can even influence human biology itself, such as in skill acquisition or technological change, to better understand the integration of cultural and biological dimensions of human existence.

The project team includes anthropologists, evolutionary theorists, archaeologists, cognitive scientists, philosophers, and other scholars from multiple institutions, but the Macquarie-based part of the team, led by Greg Downey (MSSS) with John Sutton and Alex Gillett (Philosophy), is focused on the conceptual dimensions of skill acquisition, physical practice, navigation, sensory learning, emotional control, empathy, and other core human capacities. Other parts of the large research team are focused more on how concepts shape identity and relationships with others and on the human capacity for technological change.



### **SURVIVAL AND WELLBEING AMONG MIGRANT PRECARIAT IN AUSTRALIA'S GIG ECONOMY**

Researchers: Selvaraj Velayutham, Amanda Wise, Shaun Wilson, Norbert Ebert and Nick Harrigan

Amount: \$404,000

Funding body / Scheme: ARC Discovery Projects

This project aims to investigate the experiences of both permanent and temporary migrants who make a living on 'last-miles' delivery platforms. They are food and parcel delivery workers working for companies like UberEATS, Easi, Deliveroo, Menulog, Amazon Flex, Uber Parcel, Sherpa, and Yello. We situate migrant gig work experiences in the context of their hopes and struggles—and, at the same time, advance an understanding of how the migrant precariat among Australia's working poor absorbs the 'everyday' risks and social consequences of gig platform delivery work. The project also seeks to discover whether migrant workers can sustain anything more than a 'minimally viable existence' (Schilling et al. 2019) or whether these jobs are risky dead-ends with little mobility. It employs a mix method of ethnography, interviews and surveys and draws together scholarship from sociology, anthropology, industrial relations and political economy.

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### **HELLO, MR AMERICA: AMERICANS ON R&R LEAVE IN AUSTRALIA IN THE VIETNAM WAR.**

Researchers: Chris Dixon (MSSS), Lisa Featherstone (UQ) and Jon Piccini (ACU)

Amount: \$151,000

Funding body / Scheme: ARC Discovery Projects

This project will provide the first comprehensive history of an important but neglected aspect of Australia's relationship with the United States. From 1967 until 1971 nearly 300,000 American servicemen - one tenth of the total number of Americans who served in Vietnam - travelled to Australia for their R&R Leave. What began as a matter of military expediency became an exercise in cultural diplomacy that left lasting economic, social and political legacies in Australia. Outcomes include a deeper understanding of the history of the US-Australian alliance, the international history of the Vietnam War, and Australian history during a period of dramatic transformation. Outputs will include a book, journal articles, and a symposium.





### THE POWER OF PUBLIC SPACES TO CONNECT COMMUNITIES AND PLACES FOR RESILIENT FUTURES

Researchers: Donna Houston, Kate Lloyd, Miriam Williams and Justine Lloyd (MSSS); Caroline Butler-Bowdon (TfNSW), Kirsten Fishburn (TfNSW), Dillion Kombumerri (NSWGA), Fiona Morrison (DPE), and Brooke Wharton (TfNSW).

Partner Organisation: NSW Department of Transport – Cities and Active Transport Division

Amount: \$254, 046

Funding body / Scheme: ARC Linkage Project

Public spaces are vital for enabling vibrant and sustainable civic life at the heart of communities. They are not just 'nice to have', public spaces provide essential social, environmental, and economic benefits. Our project adopts an innovative model of government-university-community collaboration to investigate, discuss and co-create new approaches to public space design, management, and use. The social benefits will be to better understand how public spaces positively contribute to place-based social connectivity in ways that can mitigate the negative impacts of current challenges such as the COVID-19 pandemic and a changing climate.

Our project will enhance current understandings of the diverse community connections to public spaces, including by promoting Indigenous leadership in place design, place-making and caring for Country. Together through a 'collaboratory' program we will explore people's changing relationships with the public spaces in their cities; the value we place on them; and how they can foster communities, strengthen ties and make neighbourhoods healthier and more resilient. By gathering evidence – examples, case studies, stories and feedback – we hope to invite conversation on how the public spaces in our cities are used, loved and valued; and explore how this is changing and evolving.

In this way we are taking the opportunity to pose big questions. We don't assume we'll have all the answers. Instead through the program we'll hear diverse stories, views and opinions – encouraging everyone to be a part of the future of their cities and public space.

Miriam Williams speaking at the Power of Public Spaces launch.

Photo: Transport for NSW.



Photo by Grooveland Designs



### THE SUSTAINABILITY AND NUTRITIONAL IMPACTS OF PLANT BASED MEAT

Researchers: Andrew McGregor (MSSS), Seema Mhrshahi, Milena Bojovic (MSSS), and Nadine Ghammachi

Amount: \$40,585

Funding body / scheme: All G Foods

There are growing concerns about the environmental and health impacts of diets that are high in animal products. Organisations as diverse as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (2019) and the EAT-Lancet Commission (Willett et al 2019) have recommended a shift towards sustainable diets by reducing consumption of animal products and an uptake of plant-based foods. These recommendations have coincided with the rapid development of the plant-based meat sector where technological advancements have improved the taste and quality of meat analogues. Plant-based meats are becoming increasingly popular and accessible in retail and food service sectors.

In this project we will conduct a scoping review of academic and grey literature to establish the current state of knowledge on the sustainability and nutritional impacts of plant-based and animal based meats, with a particular focus on beef products and replacements. We focus on points of consensus as well as uncertainty, while also reviewing best practice approaches to making comparisons. The review generates data that can provide a factual basis for general claims comparing the qualities of plant-based and animal-based meats, and identify best practice approaches for comparing the sustainability and nutritional values of specific plant and animal based meats in the Australian context.

### RELIGION AND STATE AFTER CRISIS: RELIGIOSITY AND TRUST IN RELIGIOUS ORGANISATIONS AFTER THE AUSTRALIAN ROYAL COMMISSION INTO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

Researchers: Kate Gleeson (MSSS), Shaun Wilson (MSSS), Robert Ross, Julian Droogan, and Marion Maddox (MSSS).

Amount: \$48,239

Funding body / scheme: MQ Research Acceleration Scheme

Since the Royal Commission, there has been debate about the institutional and spiritual role of organised religion in a more secular, less trusting Australia. Survey data suggests mainstream religions are suffering sustained loss of faith among believers and a sharp decline in confidence among the public. This project aims to identify trends in religiosity and causes of declining trust in religion. It also examines how these factors inform public attitudes to the relationship between religion and the Australian state. Outcomes include new knowledge about religiosity and new understandings of the significant role religious organisations play in Australia's economy and society.



### MINORS ON CAMPUS: REGULATING THE SEXUAL SAFETY AND WELLBEING OF UNDER-18S WHO ATTEND AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITIES.

Researchers: Tobia Fattore (MSSS), Kate Gleeson (MSSS), Rebecca Sheehan, Alison Pullen, and Kate Manlik.

Amount: \$42,056

Funding body / Scheme: MQ Research Acceleration Scheme

The 2022 National Student Safety Survey indicated that one in twenty Australian university students aged 18+ have been sexually assaulted and one in six have been sexually harassed in a university context. Up to 50,000 students aged 16-17 study at Australian universities at any given time, but their experiences are not recorded in the survey and while most Australian universities have 'Student Sexual Misconduct Policies', these too are developed for students aged 18 and over. Although the age of consent is 16 in NSW, mandatory reporting legislation applies to any young person under 18 suspected of risk of sexual harm. These legal obligations are addressed in university 'Children's Policies', but these are not designed for sexual misconduct. Young people (aged 16-17) who attend university are therefore not being represented in instruments for preventing and providing recourse for sexual harm.

Using Macquarie University as a pilot, this project examines this group's experiences of being in an institution designed for adults, their rights and responsibilities, and the relevance of university sexual violence policies for them. It involves four key stages:

- A review of Macquarie policies and procedures addressing children, sexual misconduct and behavioural codes, analysed against Child-Safe Standards.
- Key informant interviews with the MQ Community about how they see the problem.
- Focus groups with MQ students, who commenced university as under 18-year olds, about their experiences, their rights and responsibilities and the relevance of campus sexual safety initiatives for them.
- A workshop with MQ policy stakeholders, that translates the research findings into a viable policy for the University.

The project will develop recommendations for how to 1) harmonise and improve existing policies; 2) embed these within current Commonwealth government Child-Safe Standards; and 3) promote safe and respectful relationships for young people within tertiary education.

### WERE WE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER? SUB-NATIONAL BORDER CLOSURES DURING COVID-19 AND THE SHIFTING SCALES OF GOVERNANCE AND RESILIENCE.

Researchers: Andrew Burrridge (MSSS), Justine Lloyd (MSSS), Richie Howitt, and Dan Ghezelbash (UNSW Kaldor Centre)

Amount: \$49000

Funding body / Scheme: MQ Research Acceleration Scheme

This project examines how sub-national Covid-19 border closures have affected governance and resilience of border communities in NSW. Border closures and changing governance of services, communication of rules, and management of mobility have shifted Australians' awareness and understanding of taken-for-granted internal borders. Regulation of sub-national borders has transcended pandemic management with legal, sociological and political implications, contrasting the national rhetoric of communities 'being in the pandemic together'. This benchmark study, of national relevance, will develop relationships with key stakeholders and institutions, to establish a framework for understanding the role and function of sub-national borders in creating and dividing communities.



# Fellowships

In 2022 several of our researchers went on research fellowships or received support through MQ's Outside Studies Program to develop their research programs.

## AARHUS INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDIES - COFUND MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE FELLOWSHIPS

Researcher: Jaap Timmer

Amount: Salary for 16 months, travel/relocation costs, and a generous research budget

Funding body / Scheme: European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions and Aarhus University Research Foundation

Time period: November 2021 – February 2023.

Our current world is increasingly characterised by uncertain futures, but how do we evaluate and revise out pasts as markers of identity? In this fellowship, I have contributed to our understanding of how people make demands on the past as their future expectations change. My 15-year-long study of a religious movement in Solomon Islands has grounded this theoretical advancement in ethnographic detail. Based in the Aarhus Institute of Advanced Studies and stimulated by a dynamic cohort of around 40 international fellows from a wide variety of disciplines, I completed a book manuscript, presented papers at two major conferences (in France and Ireland), gave three seminars (in Norway, the Netherlands, and Denmark), and wrote 7 articles. In addition, I secured Carlsberg Foundation funding for an international conference on historicity. The papers presented during this conference will appear in an edited volume that I am currently editing together with Professor Ton Otto. The volume will push the theorisation of historicity further by exploring how exactly it impacts on and modifies our understanding of historical knowledge. Overall, the fellowship has highlighted that there is widespread appreciation for the ways in which anthropology reflects on the complexity of the problems we face in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.



## RE-INVITATION FELLOWSHIP FOR HUMBOLDT PRIZEWINNERS

Researchers: A/Prof Steve Wood, Dr Patricia Schneider

Amount: \$18,000

Funding body / Scheme: Alexander von Humboldt Foundation

Time period: 1 August 2022 – 31 October 2022

Project description (200-250 words):

This interdisciplinary project investigates the evolution, stability, contestation, and transgression of political norms among countries with Baltic Sea coastlines. All these countries will be addressed with a priority focus on Germany, Denmark, Poland, Russia, and overarching regional dimensions. The research questions are: Does the notion *Mare Nostrum* (Our Sea) apply to this northern European marine context? Does a commonality implicit in the designation manifest in political norms? What exceptions are there and why? The project has several interwoven dimensions: 1) *Historical, discursive, comparative*; 2) *Theoretical*; 3)



#### *Spatial and geopolitical; 4) Institutional.*

The AvH research fellowship was conducted in collaboration with Dr Patricia Schneider of the Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy at the University of Hamburg, a former visiting researcher at Macquarie University and partner in a cooperation venture. The project engages with literatures and theories from International Relations, comparative politics, area studies, political sociology, security studies, and marine studies. Researchers obtained primary source material from qualitative interviews with officials in foreign, economic, defence, legal, and environmental policy fields. Theoretical propositions are applied to energy security, environmental security, and military security. Nord Stream 2 is a contemporary case that may be revelatory in this regard.



Steve Wood, *Festschrift* (Keynote Speech), Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy at the University of Hamburg, October 2022

### THE POLITICS OF HOUSING DATA: EXAMINING AND CHALLENGING THE UNEVEN QUANTIFICATION OF HOUSING PROBLEMS



Researcher: Alistair Sisson.

Amount: \$476,088

Funding body / scheme: Macquarie University Research Fellowship (MQRF)

Alistair began a MQRF in January 2023 and will be based in the Discipline of Geography for four years. He is an early-career researcher whose work focuses on housing, gentrification, and urban development and planning. He completed a PhD at the University of Sydney in 2020 and has since held postdoctoral positions at UNSW, the University of Wollongong, and the University of Sydney.

Alistair's MQRF project, which is sponsored by Prof Kristian Ruming, is titled 'The politics of housing data' and involves critical analyses of the various ways that contemporary housing problems are quantified as well as the highly uneven availability of quantitative data relating to different housing problems. In particular, the project will compare the creation and use of quantitative data relating to housing supply, homelessness, and evictions. The latter of these is an issue about which there is very little data available in Australia; as such the project will scope the technical and political possibilities and challenges of creating evictions databases, drawing on lessons from initiatives overseas as well as collaboration with various public, non-profit and grassroots organisations locally.

In addition to his MQRF project, Alistair is teaching into the units GEOP2010/6080 Theory and Methods in Geography and Planning, GEOP3090 Thinking Space, GEOP2070 Urban Dynamics: Population, Housing and Regeneration and GEOP8070 Decolonising Planning.

### ZIMBABWE AND THE (UN)MAKING MODERN MONEY

Researcher: Chris Vasantkumar

Funding body / Scheme: MQ Outside Studies Program

Time period: Jan 2- July 1, 2022

My OSP allowed me to advance my research on money and theories of exchange in two ways. First, it enabled me to write up the results of prior fieldwork on the complex, if not to say anarchic, monetary landscape of contemporary Zimbabwe. This work employs an analysis of recent trends in the country—the increasing importance of cashless transactions, the proliferation of local and virtual currencies, and the normalization of an economic landscape in which hard and soft currencies are subject to different modes of usage—as a means of rewriting scholarly assumptions about money in general. This week, one of the several essays I wrote and revised over the course of OSP, “‘Every Dollar has Its Own Problem:’ Discrepant Dollars and The Social Topography of Fungibility in Multi-Currency Era Zimbabwe (2009-2019),” was accepted for publication by The Journal of Cultural Economy.

My OSP also gave me space to make an unexpected breakthrough in my conceptualisation of exchange theory more broadly. Serving as a discussant of a paper delivered by Janet Roitman (RMIT) at Deakin University entitled “Africa Rising: Class or Finance?” (watch here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v7dcPMYhs5M>) prompted me to bring together two theretofore unrelated strands of my research, my money project and a theoretical interest in the anthropology of ontologies and alterity (the focus of a forthcoming essay in HAU: Journal of Ethnographic Theory). This confluence in turn pushed me down an unexpected and potentially promising path of revisiting and critiquing the insistent secularist and anthropocentric understandings of economic behaviour and exchange that have characterized work on the topic in anthropology for the past century.



In 2018 when I first conducted fieldwork in Zimbabwe, it was relatively commonplace to encounter impromptu signs placed by informal traders next to their wares on the pavement indicating several different prices for the same items, a phenomenon Zimbabweans generally termed “tier pricing.” While all prices were in US Dollars, different prices were required for payment in different kinds of dollars (local, electronic, mobile, etc.).

### LOVE ACROSS CLASS

Researcher: Eve Vincent

Funding body / Scheme: MQ Outside Studies Program

Time period: Jan 2- July 1, 2022

Love Across Class is research undertaken with Dr Rose Butler, DECRA fellow in the Alfred Deakin Institute. We aim to investigate how class differences manifest and are managed within intimate relationships where partners originate from a differently situated class background. We qualitatively explore the role of class in people's individual and negotiated approaches to work, housing, money, family life, child-rearing, health, social life and leisure in contemporary Australia. This research will shed important light on what builds inter-class connections at a time when such differences are not only increasing, but when class differences are routinely mobilised by elites to reinforce social differences and break down solidarities.

The period of OSP was devoted to writing select chapters of a co-authored book on this topic and proved incredibly productive. Further, over this period, we secured a publishing contract with Melbourne University Publishing. *Love Across Class* will appear in early 2024.



**TRUMPISM BEFORE TRUMP: THE EMOTIONAL POLITICS OF MASCULINE WHITE NATIONALISM**

Researcher: Lloyd Cox

Funding body / Scheme: MQ Outside Studies Program

Time period: 1 July – 31 December 2022

This programme promised to complete three articles that would inform my longer-term book project on political emotions and masculine white nationalism in the US. Its broader aim was to further develop a transformative approach to the study of political emotions, nationalism and charisma, building on concepts developed in my recent publications.

During the period of the grant, a number of other collaborative opportunities presented themselves in cognate fields, which I took and which proved to be very successful. Consequently, during the OSP I had three articles and one book chapter published or accepted for publication, with another two articles presently under review, and another article near completion. I also made progress on the book, which I still hope to publish in 2024, though it was slower than expected due to the other writing projects to which I committed.

As manifested in these various publications, the OSP was a very productive period for my research and writing. The opportunity to research, read and write unencumbered by the demands of teaching and administration enabled me to really focus and extend my productivity in ways that simply would not have been possible in the absence of OSP. The results speak for themselves.



# New Books

During 2022 three new books came out in which School staff played an important editorial role.

## **SEX IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA**

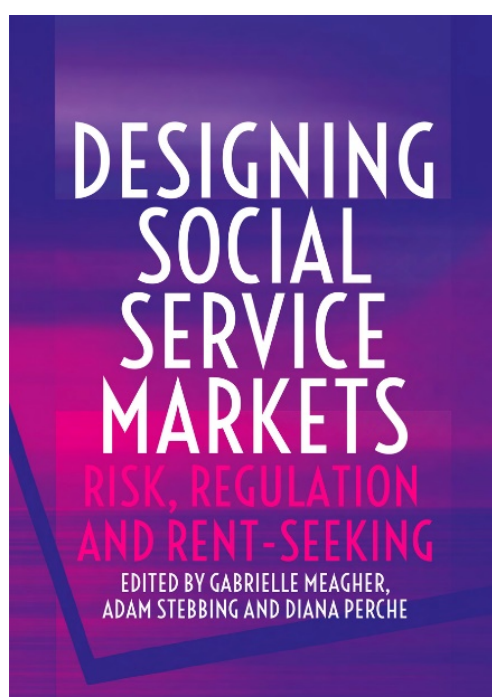
Publisher: Vanderbilt University Press

Editors: L.L. Wynn and Angel Foster

*Sex in the Middle East and North Africa* examines the sexual practices, politics, and complexities of the modern Arab world. Topics covered in the book include: straight and gay allyship in the “lesbian playground” of Dubai; women dealing with dick pics while hooking up in Jordan; the comparative risks and rewards of legal and illegal sex work in Tunisia; gay men struggling against normative masculinity while using sex apps in Beirut; porn consumption among pious revolutionary women in Iran; single women using magic to cast spells of impotence after being spurned by lovers in Morocco; Syrian refugee women who rebel against American constructions of marital love; the pleasures and politics of withdrawal as a contraceptive method in Turkey; a Coptic Christian woman dealing with revenge porn in the context of sectarian politics in Egypt; and Palestinian women using smuggled sperm to have babies with their husbands who are in Israeli prisons—a unique case of procreation in the absence of sex.

Throughout the book contributors examine the complexities surrounding normative, non-normative, and illicit sexual behaviors and relationships, including heterosexual and non-heterosexual relationships, individuals whose bodies and lives reject binary categories of gender and sexual desire, those who have premarital, marital, and extramarital relationships, and those who engage in remunerative or transactional sex. In doing so, the contributors explore topics that veer away from the standard tropes of sex in the region and demonstrate that bright lines dividing normative and non-normative behaviors do not exist.

sex in the middle east  
and north africa



## **DESIGNING SOCIAL SERVICE MARKETS: RISK, REGULATION AND RENT-SEEKING**

Editors: Gabrielle Meagher, Adam Stebbing, Diana Perche

Publisher: ANU Press

Governments of both right and left have been introducing market logics and instruments into Australian social services in recent decades. Their stated goals include reducing costs, increasing service diversity and, in some sectors, empowering consumers. This collection presents a set of original case studies of marketisation in social services as diverse as family day care, refugee settlement, employment services in remote communities, disability support, residential aged care, housing and retirement incomes. Contributors examine how governments have designed these markets, how they work, and their outcomes, with a focus on how risks and benefits are distributed between governments, providers and service users. Their analyses show that inefficiency, low-quality services and inequitable



access are typical problems.

Avoiding simplistic explanations that attribute these problems to either a few 'bad apple' service providers or an amorphous neoliberalism that is the sum of all negative developments in recent years, the collection demonstrates the diversity of market models and examines how specific market designs make social service provision susceptible to particular problems. The evidence presented in this collection suggests that Australian governments' market-making policies have produced fragile and fragmented service systems, in which the risks of rent-seeking, resource leakage and regulatory capture are high. Yet the design of social service markets and their implementation are largely under political control. Consequently, if governments choose to work with market instruments, they need to do so differently, working with principles and practices that drive up both quality and equality.

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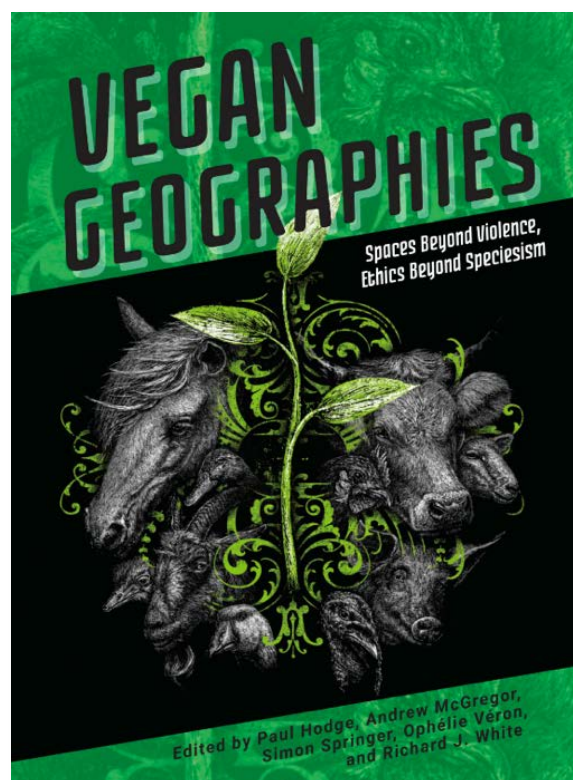
### **VEGAN GEOGRAPHIES: SPACES BEYOND VIOLENCE, ETHICS BEYOND SPECIESISM**

Editors: Paul Hodge, Andrew McGregor, Simon Springer, Ophélie Véron, and Richard J White

Publisher: Lantern Publishing and Media

Veganism as an ethics and a practice has a recorded history dating back to antiquity. Yet, it is only recently that researchers have begun the process of formalising the study of veganism. Whereas occasional publications have recently emerged from sociology, history, philosophy, cultural studies, or critical animal studies, a comprehensive geographical analysis is missing. Until now. In fourteen chapters from a diverse group of scholars and living practitioners, *Vegan Geographies* looks across space and scale, exploring the appropriateness of vegan ethics among diverse social and cultural groups, and within the midst of broader neoliberal economic and political frameworks that seek to commodify and marketise the movement.

*Vegan Geographies* fundamentally challenges outdated but still dominant human–nature dualisms that underpin widespread suffering and ecological degradation, providing practical and accessible pathways for people interested in challenging contemporary systems and working collectively toward less destructive worlds.









# Research Engagement and Impact

## PROJECT: DEVELOPING A 'REINVESTMENT MECHANISM' WITH JUST REINVEST NSW

Researchers: Ben Spies-Butcher, Gareth Bryant

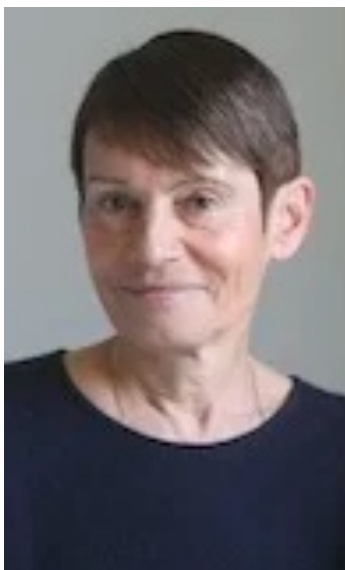
Aim: To support First Nations Communities reclaim resources from the prison system to build strong Communities

Australian governments collectively spend billions imprisoning First Nations people, at one of the highest rates in the world, reproducing intergenerational trauma. These resources could instead be used by First Nations Communities to support First Nations people and strengthen Communities. Just Reinvest (JR) NSW is a First Nations led initiative working with Communities in Bourke, Moree and Mt Druitt to establish justice reinvestment initiatives and advocate for systemic change that builds safer and stronger communities.

We draw on our understanding of public finance and social policy to assist JR NSW explore finance models that enable justice reinvestment by transferring resources and control from the prison system to First Nations Communities. As members of the JR NSW Research Group, we have provided advice on potential funding models, developed resources to support discussion of funding models with Community, participated in workshops and meetings with Community leaders, policy makers, funders and researchers, and contributed to reports and proposals.

There is growing government and philanthropic support for national, state and Community justice reinvestment models. However, a 'reinvestment mechanism' that effectively redirects resources from incarceration into Community control is yet to be fully developed. Our group works with JR staff to support conversations between Communities and policy makers aimed at co-designing mechanisms at both the state and Community level.





### PROJECT: PARTICIPATING IN SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REVIEWS

Researcher: Alison Ziller

Aim: To build the capacity of community groups to conduct and participate in social impact assessments

The School is a recognised leader in social impact assessment [SIA]. This leadership is exercised through the teaching program and through professional practice of SIA review work. SIA is a requirement placed on developers and other project proponents. But it is also undertaken by decision makers such as planning panels, commissions and courts. These decision makers rely on the material presented to them – on the one hand by the proponent and on the other by community stakeholders with public interest concerns.

While proponents pay for SIAs to be prepared, many community stakeholders – including local councils, professional associations, not-for-profit groups and incorporated community associations - are unfunded or have relatively limited resources. In what is often a David and Goliath situation, community stakeholders seek to present social impact aspects of the public interest to decision makers - often complex and detailed work in which community

stakeholders are relatively unskilled or unpractised.

In the last ten years a small number of staff in the School have provided expert SIA review input to the assessment of controversial proposals, including ten proposed mines, twelve licensed premises, five housing developments and one school. Each review examined the case made in the proponent's SIA for any weaknesses, omissions and/or unsubstantiated claims. Each review sought to level the playing field between proponent and opponent and ensure that claims made in SIAs submitted with development applications are factually correct, proportionate and justifiable. Most of this work has been pro bono. During this period, the School also provided ten public agencies with policy advice on SIA.

Professional practice of SIA review provides Macquarie students with a continuing source of up to date, directly relevant SIA experience and confirms Macquarie University as a primary and reliable source of expertise on complex social impact matters.

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### PROJECT: SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH COMMUNICATION

Researchers: Lisa Wynn and Angel Foster

Aim: To make evidence-based sexual and reproductive health information about medication abortion widely available

As part of Professor Lisa Wynn's pro bono work for Cambridge Reproductive Health Consultants, she collaborated with Professor Angel Foster (University of Ottawa Faculty of Health Sciences) and a team of translators to create a multilingual website devoted to providing evidence-based sexual and reproductive health information and resources about medication abortion: [medicationabortion.com](http://medicationabortion.com).

Medication abortion, also known as medical abortion (which includes mifepristone but also other drugs that can be used to safely induce an early abortion), is safer than later, instrumental abortions. In the case of unwanted pregnancy, it is an intervention that can save lives in conflict zones and contexts where reproductive rights are limited. The website is written to be accessible to the general public, for people who might need to get abortion information if they're in a country where it's





illegal, but it also contains a wealth of evidence-based information and resources for health providers. It is currently available in six different languages: English, Spanish, Arabic, French, Persian, and Turkish, with plans to add two more languages soon, Portuguese and Burmese (particularly important for people in Brazil and Burma, where abortion information is badly needed because of its limited legal status and the needs of refugees along the Thai-Burma border).

This project is a difficult one to measure the impact of, because although we know that many people use the website, we don't know why, or what they do with that information. Fundamentally, this is information that we can never know, because the whole point of the website is to allow people to privately access information without having to reveal what they are using the information for. The site has been visited by several million unique viewers from 208 countries and territories. And the need for accurate, evidence-based abortion information is more relevant than ever in the wake of the United States Supreme Court ruling striking down *Roe v. Wade*'s protections for legal abortion access.

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### PROJECT: EAST ASIA'S GREEN ENERGY TRANSITION

Researcher: Sung-Young Kim

Aim: Expand public and professional understanding of green growth.

Dr Sung-Young Kim has long been engaged in a project to promote understanding of 'Green Growth' as a realistic way of coping with energy security, climate change mitigation and economic growth demands through investments into green technology manufacturing. He has engaged and influence policy makers in three ways: publishing outreach, engaging in public consultations and direct outreach with government and corporate leaders.

**Publishing Outreach.** Sung-Young has individually and collaboratively authored short opinion-pieces in outlets including *The Conversation*, *East Asia Forum*, the *Asia Society*, *Canada-Asia Agenda*, *Research Outreach*, *Taiwan Insight*, *The Korea Times*. Each short article in these outlets have been republished by numerous mainstream newspaper and online media outlets. In *The Conversation* his eleven individual and co-authored articles have attracted 519,823 readers and 1,027 comments (as of 2/11/22). He is ranked as the 12th most widely read author from Macquarie University of all time, the 3rd most widely read author from the Faculty of Arts, and the top ranked author from the Macquarie School of Social Sciences.

**Engaging with official public consultations.** Sung-Young has directly contributed to public debate on new legislation regarding Australia's green energy policies through making two submissions to official governmental consultations.

**Direct outreach and engagement with government and corporate leaders.** Sung-Young has been invited by foreign embassies, private industry associations, and university-based research centres to share my expert views on greening initiatives in East Asia (especially Korea), Australia and New Zealand. My most sought-after expertise to date has been in the rapidly changing opportunities to develop a renewables-produced green hydrogen industry in Australia and the prospects for Korea to collaborate as customers and technological collaborators with Australian partners.



## Events

The School was involved in a wide range of dynamic events that brought people to campus or promoted research beyond the University. A selection of these events is highlighted below.

### SONGSPIRALS: YOLŲU WOMEN SHARING & NOURISHING MILKARRI

Organisers: Merrkiyawuy Ganambarr-Stubbs, Djawundil Maymuru, and Rosalee Pearson with the Gay'wu Group of Women, a collective of YolŲu women and their non-Indigenous collaborators Sandie Suchet-Pearson, Kate Lloyd, Sarah Wright and Lara Daley.

Location: University of Newcastle Art Gallery

Date: 23 September- 26 November

The *Songspirals: YolŲu women sharing & nourishing milkarri* exhibition was held at the University of Newcastle Art Gallery in November after 2 years of postponements due to COVID.

"We want you to come with us on our journey, our journey of Songspirals. Songspirals are the essence of people in this land, the essence of every clan. We belong to the land and it belongs to us. We sing to the land, sing about the land. We are that land. It sings to us," said curator and Songspirals author Merrkiyawuy Ganambarr-Stubbs.

The *Songspirals* exhibition included prints, weaving, larrakitj, and audio-visual materials, showcasing the deep and ongoing relationships between YolŲu people and their land through songspirals, also known as songlines. The exhibition tells stories of songspirals and how they are lived through ceremonial and everyday life, sharing aspects of 5 Dhuwa and Yirritja Songspirals.

In addition to the exhibition, Djawundil Maymuru together with Rrawun Maymuru, Megan Ganambarr, Buwata Mununggurr, Selina Yunupingu and Yumalil Yunupingu ran a series of public workshops and events including the sharing of YolŲu kinship relations, weaving and songspirals.

"We don't sing about nothing; we sing about earth, life on earth, and life itself. We are all part of it. We look after our earth, our animals, our lands, and our songs. We ask that you respect the people who sing these songs, to respect us for who we are. We are here still, and we will be singing these same songs for the next thousands of years." said Merrkiyawuy Ganambarr-Stubbs.



Weaving workshop as part of the Songspirals exhibition.



### NATIONAL SOCIAL SCIENCE WEEK PUBLIC TALK BY PROFESSOR MEGAN WARIN

Organisers: Anthropology

Location: Arts Precinct

Date: Wednesday 7 September 2022

Professor Megan Warin has worked in and across a number of disciplines in Australian and UK universities, including anthropology, gender studies, psychiatry and public health. Megan Warin's talk was titled *Towards a new obesity policy? Liberalism and the depoliticisation of culture in Australian obesity debates*. Warin drew from long term ethnographic research in an Australian community that has high levels of socio-economic disadvantage and obesity, and work with State and Federal committees and obesity initiatives. Her presentation examined the processes and tactics of depoliticisation that are used to elide political and socio-cultural phenomenon.



### APSA WORKSHOP - RELIGION AND POLITICS AFTER MARRIAGE EQUALITY IN AUSTRALIA

Organisers: Kate Gleeson and Elenie Poulos

Location: Arts Precinct Wallumattagal Campus

Date: 16 & 17 November 2022

"Religion and Politics after Marriage Equality in Australia" was the theme of an APSA-funded interdisciplinary workshop held at Macquarie University Wallumattagal Campus on 16-17 November 2022, hosted by A/Prof Kate Gleeson and Rev Dr Elenie Poulos. The workshop brought together world-leading and emerging Australian scholars from diverse disciplines with legal practitioners, religious representatives and LGBTIQ+ advocates to explore religious freedom, discrimination and equality rights in the post-marriage equality environment.

The workshop was a unique opportunity to examine the intersection of the political, legal, sociological, educational, historical and theological factors that inform Australia's approach to religion and equality laws. The program was designed to provide ample opportunity to explore the issues surrounding the current public debate about religious freedom. Workshop participants addressed foundational historical, legal and political questions of First Nations spirituality and sovereignty, religious pluralism and race, freedom of speech and religious vilification, the relationships between organised religion, parties and voters, the place of religious studies in academia and policy, and the contemporary crisis of trust in religion organisations. One recurring theme in the presentations and discussions was the effect on queer people of faith of the deeply entrenched

assumption that religious freedom and equality rights are inherently opposed to each other. The relationships between religion and politics, and religious pluralism and the law, were explored from numerous perspectives, including historical, sociological and legal. The conversations were lively and creative and the opportunity to provide scholarly research expertise into a significant piece of law reform work being conducted nationally, was valued by all participants.



### SPECIAL ELECTION FORUM

Organiser: Shaun Wilson

Date: 10 May

The Macquarie School of Social Science held a special Election Forum, in the lead up to the 2022 Federal Election. Panellists included Professor Michelle Arrow (History at Macquarie University), Professor Judith Brett (La Trobe University), Kos Samaras (professional opinion pollster, Director at RedBridge Group Australia, and former Deputy Campaign Director - Labor Victoria), Dr Sung-Young Kim (Politics and IR at Macquarie University), Dr Lloyd Cox (Politics and IR at Macquarie University). Panellists gave short takes on the 2022 Federal Election campaign, and then engaged in a question-and-answer session with the audience. Over 70 people attended, both online and in person. Topics covered included the changing Australian electorate, energy policy, gender inequalities and voting, party leaders, and the campaign itself.

### IMPROVING MARKETS FOR SOCIAL SERVICES: OPPORTUNITIES AND OBSTACLES

Organisers: Adam Stebbing and Gabrielle Meagher

The Macquarie School of Social Science hosted a special forum and panel discussion as part of the book launch of the publication *Designing Social Service Markets: Risk, Regulation and Rent-seeking* (co-editors Gabrielle Meagher, Adam Stebbing and Diana Perche; ANU Press). Event was chaired by Associate Professor Ben Spies-Butcher (Sociology, MSSS), with panellists Janine O'Flynn (ANZOG), Siobhan O'Sullivan (UNSW) and Gabrielle Meagher (Sociology, MSSS). The discussion involved a robust discussion of the challenges and problems faced when social services are transformed into economic markets. Over 60 people attended, both in person and on Zoom.

### NEW DIRECTIONS IN POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY WORKSHOP

Organisers: Andrew Burrridge, Marilu Melo Zurita, and Ari Jerrems

Date: 15-16 November

The Political Geography Study Group of the Institute of Australian Geographers held the inaugural 'New Directions in Political Geography' workshop in the School of Social Sciences at Macquarie University. Over the two days, more than 30 participants attended, in-person and online, from universities across Australia, Hong Kong, New Zealand, and Singapore. Presentations were given across 7 paper sessions, as well as a panel on vegan geographies co-organised by Andrew McGregor.

The sessions demonstrated the breadth of contemporary political geographies in the region, themed around community, borders, governance and political economy, online political geographies, the more-than-human, security, and camps and spaces of detention. The workshop was generously supported by the IAG's Study Group funding for 2022.



Andrew Burrridge (left) with participants at the political geography workshop.







# Education

## Reflections on Education in 2022

2022 witnessed a return to campus for most of our learning and teaching activities and it has been wonderful to see students back in classes. This return to face-to-face activities has also provided opportunities for colleagues across the School to come together in different forums to consider and reflect on our learning and teaching practice.

One priority in 2022 has been to strengthen our interdisciplinary teaching across two of our flagship courses, the Bachelor of Social Science and the Master of Public and Social Policy. Through the establishment of formal steering groups alongside more informal course level discussions, we have been able to maintain disciplinary expertise in our teaching alongside building a shared understanding about what it means to teach in the Social Sciences.

Colleagues across the School demonstrate incredible dedication to best practice in all elements of learning and teaching, including innovations in unit delivery and assessment design. A number of staff have been successful in gaining recognition for this commitment, as illustrated through PACE awards as well as Indigenous Learning and Teaching grants.

It was particularly exciting to hold our first School prize giving ceremony in September 2022 as part of Social Sciences week, and to be able to celebrate the wonderful achievements of our students across all disciplines.

Projects on the horizon for 2023 include a review of the Bachelor of Social Science, as well as other work to support student engagement and ensure the contemporary relevance of learning and teaching across the School.

Below we highlight some of the key achievements of staff and students in 2022, all of which point to our shared commitment to high quality learning and teaching across all areas of our practice.



Associate Professor Sara Fuller, Director of Education



## Our Courses and Majors

Across the School, we deliver successful courses at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels: the Bachelor of Social Science, the Bachelor of Planning, the Master of International Relations, the Master of Planning, the Master of Public and Social Policy and the Graduate Certificate of Environmental Planning. We also teach majors across the social sciences in the Bachelor of Arts.

### BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

The Bachelor of Social Science allows students to gain insights into the science of people, places and social problems. Social science, namely the study of society and the relationships among individuals, allows insights into critical questions. This includes: How do people respond to a serious disease outbreak such as coronavirus? What communication methods do protesters use to bypass government-controlled media? How can violent crime be reduced and our neighbourhoods made safer? What impact do social inequalities have on opportunities?

### BACHELOR OF PLANNING

Urban and regional planning is a profession that shapes the places where people live, work and play. Planners aim to improve the social and environmental fabric of cities by creating vibrant, healthy and equitable communities, and by facilitating sustainable transport, infrastructure and growth. How we plan our cities and regions today will profoundly affect future generations in a climate-changed world. The professionally accredited Bachelor of Planning focuses on recognising the social and cultural diversity of places, and the importance of cross-cultural approaches to research, plan-making and impact assessment.

### MASTER OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

We live today in an interconnected and globalised world. Yet conflict continues to impede international cooperation. The world has become more, rather than less, complicated. Being able to understand and evaluate global issues across the social, cultural, legal, political and economic spectrum is critical. The Master of International Relations, which is built around innovative approaches and thinking, enables students to comprehend and evaluate contemporary regional and global developments.

### MASTER OF PLANNING

Effective urban and regional planning is crucial in our rapidly urbanising and climate-changing world. Skilled planners make central contributions to shaping healthy places and inclusive communities, and to the sustainability of social, economic, infrastructure and land-use development. The professionally accredited Master of Planning provides training and skills in urban and regional planning, including in planning law, strategic and statutory planning, urban development, creating smart and healthy cities, social impact and climate vulnerability assessment, First Nations planning, urban policy, placemaking and governance.

### MASTER OF PUBLIC AND SOCIAL POLICY

Contemporary public and social policymaking involves balancing the needs of diverse stakeholders and competing interests. Being able to recognise and account for diverse viewpoints – and understand both the opportunities and challenges inherent in policymaking and the research that informs it – is critical to make a positive impact on the well-being of others at an individual and community level. The Master of Public and Social Policy – with its dual focus on policy analysis and applied social research – provides a deep understanding of the forces that shape policy and the processes involved in making it.

### GRADUATE CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

Environmental planning is concerned with protecting natural ecosystems and biodiversity; enhancing air, land and water quality, promoting sustainable urban and regional development; maintaining effective resource management and integrated land use; and minimising the impact of natural hazards. The Graduate

Certificate of Environmental Planning provide the policy and legal foundations of planning practice in New South Wales, with a particular emphasis on the environmental and social dimensions of planning.

### MAJORS IN THE BA

*Anthropology* is the comparative study of societies and human diversity. It asks questions about the behaviour, meaning and value between different societies and cultures. Anthropologists focus on groups within society that follow a distinct way of life.

*Gender Studies* investigates what it means to be a woman/man/other gender identity in society at different times and places. It offers new approaches to untangling questions such as: Who are we? Why are we the way we are? What directions is society taking and how can it be transformed?

*Geography* brings together the social and environmental sciences to study issues such as the human dimensions of climate change; rising urban and regional inequalities; and sustainability and disaster resilience in Australia and Asia-Pacific.

*International Relations* focuses on the global system and explores how this system originated and functions today. It is concerned with relations among states, the role of international organisations, and the foreign policies and power relations between particular countries.

*Politics* is broadly concerned with the way societies are structured and with the distribution of authority, power and influence. It incorporates a variety of topics and theoretical approaches including Australian politics, public policy, political theory and international relations.

*Social Justice* is interested in socioeconomic inequality and disadvantage; environmental justice; discrimination and inequality related to age, gender, race and cultural diversity; and the treatment of refugees. It has a unique focus on mechanisms to bring about positive social change through policy, law and activism.

*Sociology* focuses on the dynamics of social relationships and the processes of social change in contemporary societies. Sociologists are interested in exploring these relationships, how they become institutionalised, and the many tensions that arise from them.





## Learning and Teaching Prizes and Grants

Across the School, staff were successful in gaining learning and teaching prizes and grants, including PACE prizes and Indigenous Learning and Teaching grants.

### 2022 PACE prizes

#### JUDYTH SACHS PACE STAFF PRIZES

Winner: Kate Lloyd

Highly Commended: Miriam Williams

#### JUDYTH SACHS PACE STUDENT PRIZE- FACULTY OF ARTS

Highly Commended: Akanksha Balakumar (GEOP4080, convened by Kate Lloyd)

#### JUDYTH SACHS PACE PARTNER PRIZE

Winner: Stockland (working with Kate Lloyd in GEOP4080)

Kate Lloyd received the PACE staff award after being nominated by students from her 4th year GEOP4080 PACE Planning Experience unit. The unit provides students with an off-campus, work-integrated learning experience in the planning field supported by a range of reflective practice learning activities and assessments aimed at improving students understanding of their workplace and the planning industry, their own strengths and weaknesses, and develop their transferable and professional planning skills. Kate is passionate about supporting students to step outside their comfort zone and transform their experience into lifelong learning.



### Indigenous Learning and Teaching grants

#### EMBEDDING INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGES IN THE CRIMINOLOGY CURRICULUM AT MQ

Lead applicant: Kate Gleeson (Politics and International Relations); Co-applicants Ben Spies-Butcher (Sociology), Rolando Ochoa (Criminology), Tom Murray (Media & Communications)

#### INDIGENOUS COUNTERMAPPING AND THE GREAT AUSTRALIAN DREAM

Lead applicant: Andrew Burrridge (Geography and Planning)



In 2022 Andrew Burrridge was a recipient of an Indigenous Learning and Teaching Grant, that supports the embedding of Indigenous knowledge and perspectives within curriculum.

Recent examples of Indigenous-led place-naming efforts demonstrate not only their importance and success, but also the contested nature of such practices. Students in urban planning, intending to enter the profession, and those actively working in the profession, require awareness of, and engagement with, Indigenous knowledges and practices surrounding place naming.

There are three intended outcomes:

- Developing critical knowledge and understanding for students regarding the colonial legacies and practices of geography and urban planning, while creating a greater awareness and respect of Indigenous knowledges;
- Providing students with knowledge from Indigenous community members and scholars regarding the role and importance of Indigenous place-naming, and countermapping as a decolonial practice; and
- Informing both academic and professional practice across Australia surrounding Indigenous place naming practices and customs.

A workshop at Macquarie University will be held in early-mid 2023 with invited guest speakers to discuss practices of, and challenges to, Indigenous place-naming.

## Events

### PLANNING SHOWCASE

During Social Sciences Week in 2022, the Discipline of Geography and Planning hosted a session showcasing some of the outstanding work that Bachelor of Planning students have done. Organised by Linda Kelly, this included a variety of assessments – videos, posters, site plans, structure plans, podcasts, and student field work experiences.

Current students, including a large contingent of first year planning students, and some teaching staff attended the session and were absorbed in seeing the variety of work produced in the latter years of the degree. It was aspirational for the first years, as well as being informative and motivating.

“It’s exciting to see what’s ahead of us in the degree”, said one enthusiastic first year student.



## Student prizes and achievements

As part of Social Sciences week in September 2022, we were delighted to hold a prize giving ceremony to recognise the exceptional performance and achievements of undergraduate and postgraduate students, as detailed below.

### ANTHROPOLOGY

Sarah Sharp: Chandra Jayawardena Memorial Prize in 1000 level Anthropology for academic excellence in 1000 level Anthropology units

Tara Catriona and Sinclair Dalton: Chandra Jayawardena Memorial Prize in 1000 level Anthropology for academic excellence in 1000 level Anthropology units

Aedan Tomas and Cormac O'Donnell: Chandra Jayawardena Memorial Prize in 2000 level Anthropology for academic excellence in 2000 level Anthropology units

Roselle Samadie: Chandra Jayawardena Memorial Prize in 3000 level Anthropology for academic excellence in 3000 level Anthropology units

Chloe Anne Baron: Robert Norton Undergraduate prize in Anthropology

June Shrestha: Kalpana Ram Prize for academic excellence in the units ANTH7000 and ANTH7001

### GEOGRAPHY & PLANNING

Charlotte Simone and Marie Warnant: Barry Scott Prize for academic excellence in 1000-level human geography & planning

Michael Allan and Di Lazzaro: Deborah Bird Rose Prize for academic excellence in 2000-level human geography & planning



William John Clark: Richie Howitt Prize for 3000-level human geography & planning for academic excellence in 3000-level human geography & planning

Hannah Saltoon: Macquarie Excellence prize in Planning (in Geography and Planning)

Matthew Simon Pearce: Planning Institute Australia Prize for academic excellence in the Master of Planning

### **POLITICS & INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

Micah Bawden: Murray Goot Essay Prize in Australian Politics for the most outstanding essay in any 3000 level unit in Politics

Ian Apps: Marion Maddox Prize for the study of Religion and Politics for the highest achievement in the third-year essay on Religion, Democracy and Politics (in Politics and International Relations)

Damian Shahfazli: Michael Wills Prize in International Relations (in Politics and International Relations)

### **SOCIOLOGY**

Rhys Allso-Toal: R W Connell Prize for 1000-level Sociology academic excellence in the two 1000-level Sociology units

Peta-Anne Toohey: R W Connell Prize for 2000-level Sociology academic excellence in the two 2000-level Sociology units

Neilab Osman: R W Connell Prize for 3000-level Sociology academic excellence in the two 3000-level Sociology units

Coco Curtis: First Year Social Science Prize for the highest achievement in the introduction to Social Science unit

Angelina Monty Roy: First Year Social Science Prize for the highest achievement in the introduction to Social Science unit

Emilie Joelle Hoffmann Fattore: Gender Studies Prize for academic excellence in the GEND1000 Freedom Dreams: Foundations in Gender Studies

Claudia Rose Minter: Maria R Markus Prize for academic excellence in the unit Theories of Modernity

Emilie Joelle Hoffmann Fattore: Journal of Australian Political Economy Prize for Study in Political Economy for academic excellence in the Political Economy major (offered in the Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Social Science)

Jennifer Anne Hockey: Pauline Johnson Prize for Year One study in the Masters of Research (Sociology) for academic excellence in the Bachelor of Philosophy/ Masters of Research Year one Sociology 7000-level units









# Higher Degree Research

## Reflections on Higher Degree Research in 2022

The HDR program in the School of Social Sciences comprises our two-year Master of Research (MRes), the Master of Philosophy (MPhil) and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) program. In 2022 we had close to 80 candidates enrolled across these programs, with 51 PhD candidates and 26 MRes Year Two candidates.

Our higher degree research (HDR) candidates were especially affected by the changes that came with the pandemic, with many experiencing disruptions to their fieldwork and data collection, travel plans, incomes and working arrangements, as well as a curtailment in conference and networking opportunities. In 2022 we saw a degree of certainty return to their research programs, with many candidates embracing the opportunities to resume fieldwork, travel, workshop, conference and networking opportunities.

Together, discipline HDR and MRes Convenors, Discipline Chairs, the Dean of the School, the Graduate Research Academy (GRA), supervisors and myself, work hard to try and offer an inclusive, stimulating and supportive research environment for our graduate research students. The School's Graduate Research Strategy (2022) outlines the overall goals of our Graduate Research program as to:

- Produce world ready graduates;
- Enable graduate researchers to conduct cutting edge research that seeks to understand and engage with the social dimensions of a complex and rapidly changing world;
- Create a dynamic, inclusive and stimulating graduate research training environment;
- Provide opportunities for graduate students to participate in and contribute to the School's intellectual community;
- Maintain the School's reputation for research excellence through the quality of our graduate research programs; and
- Provide appropriate systems of support for graduates to ensure timely completion.

Graduate researchers are a core part of the intellectual community of each discipline in the School and are critical to the ongoing success and research productivity of the School as a whole. Our graduate research community comprises a diverse mix of international and domestic candidates, variously pursuing empirical, theoretical, philosophical and creative research. Some of our candidates come straight from their undergraduate degrees, whilst others come to a PhD later in life after some years of professional employment.

What distinguishes graduate research in the School of Social Sciences is that many of our candidates are driven not only by a strong sense of curiosity in terms of describing and explaining social change, complexity and diversity, but most of our graduate researchers are also motivated by an ethical concern about some of the major challenges confronting society – inequality, exclusion, conflict, sustainability, extremism, displacement, racism, and injustice. This concern for research that 'makes a difference' is reflected in the publicly engaged nature of much of the research our graduate researchers undertake as well as their investment in and dedication to ethical research partnerships. Many of our graduate researchers are pushing back against the extractive and opportunistic approach to academic research of the past, with many working closely with community leaders and organisations, Aboriginal traditional owners and elders, NGOs and activists, industry representatives and government agencies to produce research that has a real impact.

Whilst many of our graduate research candidates go on to pursue academic careers, with our alumni well represented in some of the top universities in Australia and the Asia Pacific, many others go on to take leadership roles in government, industry and the not-for-profit sector drawing on their advanced analytical, research, communication, organisational and writing skills as well as specialised knowledge in their chosen field.



Assoc. Prof. Fiona Miller, Research Training Director

### PHD CONFIRMATION OF CANDIDATURES 2022

The diverse nature of the research undertaken in the School is captured in the titles of the many PhD Candidates who successfully completed their Confirmation of Candidatures:

- Louise Decottigny (Anthropology) - Gender in motion: women's organisations in the pathway towards independence in the Autonomous Region of Bougainville
- Samuel E Jones (Anthropology) - Collaboration and Applied Listening Practices in Music Production
- Tasmia Jahangir (Anthropology) - Crafting Muslim Selves: An Ethnography of Ordinary Islam among Pakistani Muslim Diaspora in Australia
- Aireen Grace Andal (Geography and Planning) - Social Spaces of Child Play in the Philippines: Discourses, Identities, Practices
- Elise Frost (Geography and Planning) - Outdoor exercise practice as 'relational placemaking' among LGBTQIA+ people living in Sydney
- Sarah Prebble (Geography and Planning) - Bodies, Bytes and Bark: Exploring smart urban forests towards sustainable Australian cities
- Penny Purdie (Geography and Planning) - Caring for Country as a series of relationships: Bunuba women and the interweaving of language, culture and Country
- Helga Simon (Geography and Planning) - Relational wellbeing: Towards a more-than-human ontology of urban wellbeing
- Mohsen Hanif (Politics and International Relations) - Spaces, Places, and Cityscapes in Narratives by Australians of Middle-Eastern Origins
- Simran Keshwani (Politics and International Relations) - Asia's "other" giant: the Political Economy of India's energy transition
- Ellen Kirkpatrick (Politics and International Relations) - The Covid-19 pandemic and state governance: crisis, security and the reproduction of capitalism
- Manuel Ramon Martin (Politics and International Relations) - Vertical and Horizontal Congruence of the Institutionalization of Party Systems in Countries with Federal Systems and Quasi-Federal Systems, 1990-2020
- Adam Rajčan (Sociology) - Is it just a PhD or a PhD and refereed outputs? Sociology PhD students' knowledge production practices during and in the post PhD period in Australasia (2010-21)

### HDR COMPLETIONS IN 2022

In 2022, we had a number of MRes candidates complete their degrees, including:

#### ANTHROPOLOGY

Jessica Binet; Lucinda Boxall; Gemma Clendinning; and Nina Nymer.

#### GEOGRAPHY AND PLANNING

Frank Solomon, Elise Frost, Garima Misra and Dilakshan Tampoe

#### POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

April Cook, Flavia Julius and Simran Keshwani

#### SOCIOLOGY

Luke Ashton, Susan Barnes, Madelaine Berglind, Rhys Cohen, Riley Edwards, Isaac Harrison and Aditya Prasad

In our PhD program the following candidates completed their degrees:



**ANTHROPOLOGY**

Dolly Ardila Romero, Gabriel Bayarri Toscano, Mayane Pereira Dore and Erin Young,

**GEOGRAPHY AND PLANNING**

Ioannis Rigkos and Maddie Shahi

**SOCIOLOGY**

Margaret Jean Kelly and Jodie Skellern

We congratulate all our graduate researchers on the successful completion of their degrees. We also celebrated the graduations of a great many of our former HDR candidates in 2022, due to the delay in holding graduation ceremonies in the previous two years.







Dr Navchaa Tugjamba, Associate Professor Fiona Miller, and Dr Lara Mottee, Faculty of Arts Graduation Ceremony, May 2022.



## Appendix 1: List of Successful Grants Awarded

FT22: Protecting Global Wetlands, 1945 to the Present

Emily O'Gorman

Australian Research Council: A\$811,055.00

16/01/23 → 16/01/27

FT22: Arab/Muslim Australian Social Movements since the 1970s: a hidden history

Randa Abdel Fattah

Australian Research Council: A\$802,000.00

1/01/23 → 31/12/26

JTF #61924: Concepts in Dynamic Assemblage: Cultural evolution and human ways of being

Agustín Fuentes (Princeton) and Greg Downey

John Templeton Foundation: US \$3,244,981

1/06/22 → 31/05/23

DP23: Survival & Wellbeing among Migrant Precariat in Australia's Gig Economy

Selvaraj Velayutham, Amanda Wise, Shaun Wilson, Norbert Ebert and Nick Harrigan

Australian Research Council: A\$404,000.00

24/04/23 → 23/04/26

Post Flood 2022: A collaborative and coordinated flood research program across QLD and NSW

Fiona Miller, F., Mel Taylor, Barbara Ryan, Kim Johnston (QUT), Anne Lane (QUT) and Darryl Stellmach (USyd)

Natural Hazards and Disaster Resilience Research Centre Ltd: A\$385,694.17

15/06/22 → 30/06/23

PH22002: Exploration of advanced control and detection of Varroa mite.

Mary Whitehouse, Phil Taylor, Francesco Stolfi, Maciej Maselko and F. Liu

Hort Innovation \$496,307

01/03/23-29/02/24

LP210200796 LP21 R2: The power of public spaces to connect communities and places

Donna Houston, Kate Lloyd, Miriam Williams, Justine Lloyd, Caroline Butler-Bowdon (TfNSW), Kirsten Fishburn (TfNSW), Dillion Kombumerri (NSWGA), Fiona Morrison (DPE) and Brooke Wharton (TfNSW).

Australian Research Council: A\$254,046.00, Department of Transport NSW: A\$70,000.00

6/02/23 → 6/02/26

MQRF 23: The politics of housing data: examining the uneven quantification of housing problems

Alistair Sisson, A.

Macquarie University: A\$44,878.20

9/01/23 → 8/01/27

MQRAS 21 R2: Were we all in this together? Sub-national border closures during Covid-19 and the shifting scales of governance and resilience.

Andrew Burrridge, Justine Lloyd, Daniel Ghezelbash and Richard Howitt

Macquarie University: A\$49,198.66

25/01/22 → 31/12/23

MQRAS 22 R2: Minors on campus: Regulating the sexual safety and wellbeing of under-18s who attend Australian universities.

Tobia Fattore, Alison Pullen, Kate Gleeson and Rebecca Sheehan

Macquarie University: A\$42,056.00

7/11/22 → 6/11/23

The sustainability and nutritional impacts of plant based meat

Andrew McGregor, Seema Miharshahi, Milena Bojovic (MSSS) and Nadine Ghammachi

All G Goods Pty Ltd: A\$40,585.00

1/04/22 → 30/09/23

OSP 2023: Immunising disasters: community, exposure and memory in the wake of environmental and political catastrophes

Richard Carter-White

Macquarie University: A\$8,352.00

1/07/23 → 31/12/23

OSP 2023: Power resources, wage-earners, and the evolution of liberal welfare policy

Shaun Wilson

Macquarie University: A\$6,290.00

1/07/23 → 31/12/23

EES2022: Mackaway\_Jacqueline\_EES2022

Jacqueline Mackaway

Macquarie University: A\$2,941.35

6/05/22 → 31/12/22

Faculty Consilient Partnership Seed Fund Scheme 2022 (Round 2)

Andrew BurrIDGE, Michael Chang (School of Natural Sciences) and Daniel Ghezelbash (UNSW)

Macquarie University: \$3,973

16/09/22 → 31/12/22

### **ADDITIONAL MAJOR GRANTS INVOLVING SCHOOL STAFF LED BY OTHER UNIVERSITIES INCLUDE:**

Thom van Dooren; Emily O'Gorman; Stephen Muecke; Grace Karskens; Matthew Kearnes; Natalie Osborne; Peter Minter

Narrative Ecologies of Warragamba Dam  
\$427,000

Libby Porter, David Kelly, Dallas Rogers, Kathleen Flanagan, Kristian Ruming

Understanding the drivers and outcomes of public housing relocation practice and policy. Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI)  
\$119,798

LP21301265: Urban Rewilding: Ecologically and Community-informed Futures.

Newsome, T., McManus, P., Houston, D., Carthey, D., Grueber, C., Banks, P., Martin, J.

Australian Research Council: \$488,277

LP220100191: Extinction Imaginaries: Mapping affective visual cultures in Australasia.

Williams, L., James, P., Amati, M., Houston, D., Ibboston, R.

Australian Research Council: \$332,862







27  
Wally's  
Walk

Lotus Theatre

MACQUARIE  
University



Muse  
↑

Western Road

Bike Hub

Building  
Theatre  
Theatre

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University



*Macquarie University is a vibrant hub of intellectual thinkers, all working towards a brighter future for our communities and our planet.*

#### **A PLACE OF INSPIRATION**

Macquarie is uniquely located in the heart of Australia's largest high-tech precinct, a thriving locale which is predicted to double in size in the next 20 years to become the fourth largest CBD in Australia.

Our campus spans 126 hectares, with open green space that gives our community the freedom to think and grow. We are home to fantastic facilities with excellent transport links to the city and suburbs, supported by an on-campus train station.

#### **RENOWNED FOR EXCELLENCE**

We are ranked among the top two per cent of universities in the world, and with a 5-star QS rating, we are renowned for producing graduates that are among the most sought after professionals in the world.

#### **A PROUD TRADITION OF DISCOVERY**

Our enviable research efforts are brought to life by renowned researchers whose audacious solutions to issues of global significance are benefiting the world we live in.

#### **BUILDING SUCCESSFUL GRADUATES**

Our pioneering approach to teaching and learning is built around a connected learning community: our students are considered partners and co-creators in their learning experience.

#### **FIND OUT MORE**

Macquarie University NSW 2109 Australia  
T: +61 (2) 9850 7111  
[mq.edu.au](http://mq.edu.au)

ABN 90 952 801 237  
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