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WELCOME FROM THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

It is our great pleasure to welcome you to this year’s JEAA conference. Hosted by the University of the Sunshine Coast for the first time, we are excited about the program, and hope the conference provides much stimulation of ideas and debates around journalism research, education and practice.

We are honoured to have three excellent keynote speakers, who we are sure will provide lots of interesting ideas for discussion. Opening the first day, Professor Thomas Hanitzsch from the University of Munich, Germany, and an expert in comparative communication research, will talk about the ways in which journalism is being transformed around the globe, drawing on much of his comparative work. On the second day, social media expert Associate Professor Alfred Hermida, from the University of British Columbia, Canada, will talk about issues surrounding social media, in particular the verification of information and its implications for journalism education. On the final day, Cath Dwyer from the ABC will discuss the ABC Open platform and its successes and opportunities for the future.

This year’s call for panel proposals was a great success. We are very happy to have on the program a variety of topics which will no doubt generate great interest. Panels focus on the future of journalism research, new directions in Australian journalism, threshold learning standards, journalism and indigeneity, journalist welfare in reporting suicide and mental health, and women in the media. On the final day, following Cath Dwyer’s keynote address, we are particularly proud to be hosting a panel session on the role of regional journalism.

Many colleagues told us that a conference on the Sunshine Coast would draw numerous participants, and it seems they were right. We have been overwhelmed with abstracts this year, and were able to accept a total of 78 papers. This has meant that concurrent paper sessions will be a little busier than in the past, with five papers presented in most. While this has resulted in slightly less time for each presenter, we believe it also offers a wider variety of ideas for presentation and discussion.

We hope you will take advantage of the numerous opportunities for networking with the welcome drinks on the stunning Pool Deck of the Mantra Hotel (held on the first day of the conference this year to encourage as many as possible to attend), the conference dinner and Ossie awards at the 4th Floor Restaurant, as well as the JEAA AGM.

We hope you will find this year’s conference an enjoyable and stimulating one, and that you may also find time to explore the beautiful beaches and hinterland the Sunshine Coast has to offer.

Folker Hanusch
Conference Convenor

And this year’s conference committee
Renee Barnes
Peter English
Jane Fynes-Clinton
Rod McCulloch
It is my pleasure, and a privilege, to welcome all members and delegates to the 2013 JEAA conference here on the Sunshine Coast. The Journalism Education Association of Australia is the peak body for journalism tertiary educators in this country. Its role encompasses the broad range of work we do as journalism academics, which includes teaching, research, continuing professional practice and engagement with both the mainstream and emerging industry.

Many, though not all, of us have been or still are working journalists and many are engaged in practice-based research while many others have been forging careers in academic research about journalism and the news media. Some members combine all these activities and wonder why by this time of the year they have a dull persistent ache in the back of their skulls!

This year we have seen the fruits of all this work, however, in findings discovered and in productive links made between academy and industry through competitive grants funded by the Australian Research Council. Where not so long ago it was rare for JEAA members to win an ARC grant, now it happens with relative regularity. Certainly, more members are applying for such grants.

We have also seen seven members receive citations and awards from the Office of Learning and Teaching. These citations recognise and reward the diverse contribution that individuals and teams make to the quality of student learning. The OLT told us citations are awarded to academic, general and sessional staff, and institutional associates, who have made significant contributions to student learning in a specific area of responsibility over a sustained period of no less than three years.

What is clear to me is that the academy, in this case through the OLT, is recognising something that we as journalism educators have known for so long that we can easily forget its value – learning by doing, and by reflecting on what we do and how we do it. These practices are embedded in journalism degrees.

All these activities demonstrate our vigour as a professional body and our significance to the discipline. If you are reading this and not already a member of JEAA, I urge you to join poste haste! If you are a member, encourage your colleagues and postgraduate students to join us.

It’s important that this year should conclude with a conference whose theme reflects both the challenges facing journalism in a time of continuing change in the news media but also the many possibilities open to future practitioners.

I am very much looking forward to hearing the insights of the keynote speakers, Thomas Hanitzsch and Alfred Hermida, bringing perspectives to bear from their international experience and, I hope, learning from what we in Australia have been researching and writing about.

I know that you will join me in warmly congratulating Folker Hanusch, everyone on his conference organising team and the University of the Sunshine Coast for hosting the 2013 JEAA conference. I hope you all get the kind of intellectual nourishment and collegial confabbing that a good conference offers. I know I am looking forward to it.

Matthew Ricketson
President, Journalism Education Association of Australia
SOCIAL EVENTS

Welcome drinks
This year’s welcome reception is hosted on Monday night, in the hope that all conference participants will be able to attend. The reception is at the Pool Deck (Level 1) of the Mantra Hotel, offering a magnificent view of the beach and ocean. Drinks and canapés will be served.

Date: Monday, December 2, 2013
Time: 1800-1930 hours
Venue: Level 1, Pool Deck, Mantra Hotel
Cost: Included in registration fee for registered participants
Dress: Smart casual

Conference Dinner
The conference dinner will provide a relaxing atmosphere to mingle with colleagues. The dinner will also include the presentation of the Ossie Awards. Please remember to bring your ticket, included in your conference pack.

Date: Tuesday, December 3, 2013
Time: 1830-2200 hours
Venue: 4th Floor Restaurant, Level 4/77 Mooloolaba Esplanade, Mooloolaba
Cost: Ticketed event only (additional cost $100 per person, pre-booked only)
Dress: Smart casual

GENERAL INFORMATION

Conference Venue
Mantra Mooloolaba Beach
Cnr Mooloolaba Esplanade & Venning St
Mooloolaba QLD 4557
Phone: (07) 5452 2600
Fax: (07) 5452 2888
Reservations: 1800 811 454
Email: mooloolaba.res@mantra.com.au

Registration desk
Registration will be located in the lobby area of the Mantra Hotel. Registration will be open during the following times:

Monday, December 2, 2013 0800-1615
Tuesday, December 3, 2013 0900-1615
Wednesday, December 4, 2013 0900-1415

Dinner tickets
If you have registered for the dinner, your conference pack will include one or more dinner tickets (in your name badge). It is essential that you bring your ticket to the conference dinner.
Internet access
Registration for the conference includes limited internet access of 200MB per day. With your registration pack, each participant will receive an individual code for accessing the service. Please note that if you have registered for three days, you will have 600MB across this time (access will stop once this limit has been reached, even on the first day). Additional internet access can be purchased from the hotel lobby.

Please note that presenters will have separate and unlimited access to the internet during their presentation.

Meal breaks
All meals will be served in the courtyard area outside the Harbour Room. Coffee and tea will be served upon arrival each day. Meal times are as follows:

Monday, December 2, 2013
1045-1100  Morning tea
1215-1300  Lunch
1430-1445  Afternoon tea
1800-1930  Welcome drinks (Lvl 1, Mantra Hotel)

Tuesday, December 3, 2013
1030-1045  Morning tea
1200-1300  Lunch
1430-1445  Afternoon tea

Wednesday, December 4, 2013
1030-1045  Morning tea
1200-1245  Lunch
1415-1430  Afternoon tea

Annual General Meeting
The JEAA AGM will be held on Tuesday, December 3 from 1200-1300, during the lunch break. The AGM will be in the Harbour Room adjacent to the courtyard where lunch is served. Members are able to bring their lunch with them into the room for the AGM.

Information for chairs and presenters
Please arrive at your session 10 minutes before the start to upload your presentation. A technical support person will be onsite to help with any problems.

Chairs, please briefly introduce your session and speakers, and ask all presenters to keep to the maximum time limit of 15 minutes per speaker. Because each parallel session is limited to 90 minutes, it is essential that presenters finish on time to leave opportunities for questions. Presenters, please ensure you keep to the time limit.
TRANSPORT INFORMATION

From Sunshine Coast Airport
There are shuttles and taxis operating from Sunshine Coast Airport to Mooloolaba. A shuttle transfer will take around 30 minutes. SunAir (www.sunair.com.au) operates local shuttles, which cost $20 one-way. Discounts apply if more than one person travels. For more information, see: http://www.sunair.com.au/sunshine-coast-airport-door-to-door.html. Taxis cost ca. $35 one-way.

From Brisbane Airport
Both SunAir (www.sunair.com.au) and Henry’s (www.henrys.com.au) operate regular door-to-door shuttles from Brisbane Airport to Mooloolaba and the Sunshine Coast. The trip takes around 1.5 hours, likely making this a quicker option than connecting to flights in Sydney or Melbourne if you’re coming from outside those two cities. Shuttles cost around $50 one way, and there are discounts if more than one person is travelling.

Getting around Mooloolaba and the Sunshine Coast
Most sites in Mooloolaba are in walking distance from the conference hotel, located on the Mooloolaba Esplanade. You can get to other towns in the area by public transport, using the Sunbus service. For timetables, go to http://jp.translink.com.au/travel-information/journey-planner/ or www.sunbus.com.au

Parking
Secure undercover parking is available at the conference hotel. There are also numerous free car parks nearby, such as on the Esplanade and in the Brisbane Road car park near the beach, as well as on-street parking.

Taxis
Suncoast Cabs Ltd
07 5451 7599
www.suncoastcabs.com.au
Please note: Above are the individual rooms for parallel sessions. For keynotes and most panel sessions, the Harbour and Coral Rooms will be converted into one room, then called the Mantra Room.

Map of Mooloolaba area
## PROGRAM

**Monday, December 2**

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<th>Session</th>
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<td>0800-0900</td>
<td>Registration open</td>
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<tr>
<td>0900-0945</td>
<td><strong>Welcome to country</strong></td>
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<td>Welcome by Prof Joanne Scott, Executive Dean, Faculty of Arts and Business, University of the Sunshine Coast</td>
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<td>Welcome by Prof Matthew Ricketson, President, Journalism Education Association of Australia</td>
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<td>0945-1045</td>
<td><strong>Keynote address</strong></td>
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<td>Mantra Room: Thomas Hanitzsch: The transformation of Journalism in a Global Context</td>
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<td>1045-1100</td>
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<td>1100-1215</td>
<td><strong>Panel session: Towards a Journalism Research Vision (Mantra Room)</strong></td>
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<td>Rhonda Breit, Matthew Ricketson, Thomas Hanitzsch, Mia Lindgren, Susan Forde, Folker Hanusch</td>
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<td><strong>Harbour Room</strong></td>
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<td>Current and future trends in Journalism</td>
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<td>Chair: Brian McNair</td>
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<td>Penny O’Donnell: Australian journalism after newspapers</td>
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<td>Lawrie Zion: New Beats: A study of Australian journalists who became redundant in 2012</td>
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<td>Margaret Simons and Brad Buller: Journals of Record - Measure of Quality or Dead Concept?</td>
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<td>Collette Snowden: On the Pornography of Exaggeration: Information lust, misleading headlines and the corruption of news</td>
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<td>Alex Wake: Read all about it: Aussie journos are hurting democracy</td>
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<td>Chair: Peter English</td>
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<td>Renee Barnes: Embedding the audience in the teaching of online journalism</td>
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<td>Scott Downman: Using Youtube to build research skills and enhance learning in a first year journalism course</td>
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<td>Marc Bryant and Jenyfer Locke: Responsibility: Developing Journalism Curriculum Regarding Social Media and Community Risk</td>
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<td>Lee Duffield: Advances in journalism education through overseas reporting practice</td>
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<td>International Journalism 1</td>
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<td>Chair: Beate Josephi</td>
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<td>Akhteruz Zaman: Journalists’ world: news and geographic space</td>
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<td>Torpekai Amakhil and Jillian Hocking: The war on journalism in Afghanistan</td>
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<td>Amanda Gearing: Global story-telling in a socially-networked world</td>
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<td>Bunty Avison: The news from Bhutan</td>
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<td>Colleen Murrell: International newsgathering in closed communities on Facebook</td>
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<td>Legal and Ethical Aspects of Journalism</td>
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<td>Chair: Trevor Cullen</td>
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<td>Johan Lidberg: From Freedom to Right – where will Freedom of Information go in the age of WikiLeaks?</td>
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<td>Jolyon Sykes: Defamation: The reverse chilling effect</td>
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<td>Joseph M Fernandez: Journalists’ confidential sources: What protection against the sword the prevailing journalists’ shield laws?</td>
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<td>Mark Pearson: Towards a law of public relations in Australia – defining the territory</td>
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<td>Keith Russell: Rethinking Curricula: Media Law and Ethics</td>
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<td>Regional and Local Journalism</td>
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<td>Chair: Renee Barnes</td>
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<td>Amy Forbes and Jane Fynes-Clinton: Big dreams, small towns: perceptions of journalism students at two regional Queensland universities</td>
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<td>Kathryn Bowd: Left behind or making their own way? Online and interactive communication and regional newspaper journalists’ professional practice</td>
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<td>Kayt Davies: Tracking Onslow – Hyperlocal journalism illuminating major resource project impacts</td>
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<td>Michael Meadows: Making a difference: local journalism practices and representations of multiculturalism</td>
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<td>Folker Hanusch: A country/city divide? Comparing Australian regional and metropolitan journalists</td>
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<td><strong>Pacific Room</strong></td>
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<td>Journalism as Research</td>
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<td>Chair: Stephen Tanner</td>
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<td>Chris Nash: Understanding journalism as a research discipline</td>
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<td>Gail Phillips: Practice-based research in journalism: an action research model for supervisors</td>
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<td>Karen Apllanalp: Writing an investigative story with a media ban in place - rethinking Journalism Research</td>
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<td>Steinar Ellingsen: The Inland Sea: An Experiment in Online Video Journalism</td>
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<td>1615-1730</td>
<td>Panel session: New Directions in Australian Journalism (Mantra Room)</td>
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<td>Presenters: Lawrie Zion, Matthew Ricketson, Penny O’Donnell, Andrew Dodd, Peter Fray, Liz Minchin</td>
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<td>1800-1930</td>
<td>Welcome Drinks and Networking on Mantra Hotel Pool Deck</td>
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<td>0900-0930</td>
<td>Registration open</td>
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<td>0930-1030</td>
<td>Keynote address Mantra Room: Alfred Hermida: When facts are fluid: Emerging best practices to verify information on social media</td>
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<td>1045-1200</td>
<td>Panel session: Threshold Learning Standards: Issues for Australian University-Level Programs in Journalism, Media and Communications (Mantra Room) Rhonda Breit, Angela Romano, Kerry McCallum, Clair Hughes</td>
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<td>1200-1300</td>
<td>Lunch Break (IEAA Annual General Meeting), Harbour Room</td>
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<td>Concurrent sessions</td>
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<td>Chair: Jane Fynes-Clinton</td>
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<td>Jeanti St Clair: Cultural frictions: ethical challenges facing Australian correspondents in Indonesia</td>
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<td>Lyn Barnes: Good grief: The traditional obituary is facing certain death in New Zealand newspapers as the focus moves more towards the survivors and their grieving</td>
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<td>Jiayu Queek, Dr Janet Fulton and Mr Paul Scott: 'From both sides of the line: A case study of Singaporean and Malaysian print media during the Pedra Branca territorial dispute</td>
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<td>Kasun Ubayasiri and Scott Downman: Human rights journalism and the reporting of refugee migration and human trafficking in Asia – Two case studies</td>
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<td>Coral Room</td>
<td>Journalism Education and News Industry</td>
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<td>Chair: Lawrie Zion</td>
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<td>Stephen Tanner, Marcus O'Donnell, Kerry Green and Trevor Cullen: Australian journalism programs: are they listening to the needs of industry?</td>
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<td>Trevor Cullen: Views from news editors in Western Australia about what skills and attributes journalism graduates need in the digital newsroom</td>
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<td>Amalie Finlayson and Isabel Fox: Conceptualising media futures: Mapping communication students' attitudinal change towards study and employment prospects over their first year at university</td>
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<td>Linda Jones &amp; Martin Hirst: The newspaper crisis: measuring and understanding news readership and Internet use among journalism students in a convergence culture</td>
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<td>Andrew Dodd, Matthew Ricketson, Bill Birnbauer: Populating the emptying newsrooms: the implications of an emerging new role for journalism schools.</td>
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<td>Pacific Room</td>
<td>Online journalism</td>
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<td>Chair: John Cokley</td>
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<td>Fiona Martin: The politics of participation: online journalism and the nature of commenting work</td>
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<td>Mary Garden: Do you want a bit of Twitter with that? The changing landscape of blogging on mainstream news sites</td>
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<td>Julie Tullberg: Twitter abuse of AFL footballers</td>
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<td>Merryn Sherwood: The Mixed Zone: The role of Australian Sports Communication Practitioners in the Production of Sports News</td>
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<td>Peter English: State of play: sports journalism in the journalistic field in Australia, the United Kingdom and India</td>
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<td>Panel session: Journalist welfare and self-care for reporting suicide and mental illness</td>
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<td>Presenters: Jenyfer Locke, Marc Byrant, Cait McMahon, Alex Wake, Jill Fisher, Joanne McCarthy</td>
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<td>Coral Room</td>
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<td>Chair: Folker Hanusch</td>
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<td>Brian McNair, Stephen Harrington, Terry Flew: Journalism and democracy in Australia: public and producer perceptions of the political public sphere</td>
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<td>Caroline Fisher: 'Watchdog' versus ‘spin-doctor’/ ‘inform’ versus ‘advocate’: the inadequacy of oppositional portrayals of journalists and parliamentary media advisers</td>
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<td>Caryl Coatsney: Extending news interviews: how John Curtin transformed</td>
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<td>Jane Fynes-Clinton: The Game – journalists’ interactions with and views of political media advisers</td>
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<td>Kristy Hess and Lisa Waller: Out of step? Newspaper coverage of the Jill Meagher march</td>
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<td>Katrina Clifford: ‘News frames of police accountability and the strategic ritual of emotionality’</td>
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<td>Michael Meadows: Writing the country: the role of journalists and journalism in the Queensland national parks movement</td>
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<td>Jill Singer: Priests, Child Sex Abuse and Shades of Grey</td>
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<td>Jan Harkin: Baby boomers behind the wheel</td>
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<td>1615-1630</td>
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<td>1830-2200</td>
<td>Conference Dinner and Ossie Awards at 4th Floor Restaurant</td>
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<td>0900-0930</td>
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<td>Keynote address Mantra Room: Cath Dwyer: Homegrown – Why regional stories are thriving globally</td>
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<td>Panel session: Regional Journalism, Mantra Room Presenters: Peter Owen, Cath Dwyer, Kristy Hess, Kathryn Bowd</td>
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<td>Chair: Mark Pearson</td>
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<td>Caryn Coatney: Influencing international news: Robert G. Menzies and wartime journalists, 1939-1966</td>
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<td>Martin Hirst: Is sectarian violence still terrorism in the eyes of the Western news media?</td>
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<td>Levi Obijifor: Defending national interest: Nigerian and South African press coverage of a diplomatic incident</td>
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<td>Michelle Rourke: Men write about tanks, women write about refugees: A pilot study on whether men and women report differently from the frontline</td>
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<td>Danielle Vida: ‘Journalism of the deed’: Anna Politkovskaya, Transnational Human Rights Networks, and the Struggle against Authoritarianism</td>
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<td>Chris Nash: What is an exegesis? Locating journalism as a research practice</td>
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<td>Kayt Davies: Can outsourced online tutorial programs solve numeracy training problems in journalism education? - Results of a trial.</td>
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<td>Paul Scott and Janet Fulton: &quot;Try before you buy?: The changing nature of internships in journalism&quot;</td>
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<td>Carolyne Lee and Jennifer Martin: Making the real readable: making space for literary/narrative writing in journalism education</td>
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<td>Beate Josephi: Literary Journalism – Contemplating Traditions and Criteria</td>
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<td>Chair: Michael Meadows</td>
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<td>Susan Forde and Heather Anderson: ‘Is it Justice, or Just Us?: Examining how radical media and the news framed an Aboriginal death in police custody</td>
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<td>Chris Thomson and Dr Bonita Mason: Teaching deep engagement with Indigenous groups while maintaining Fourth Estate journalism in the fast-paced online era</td>
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<td>Larry Schwartz: A Knock at the Door: how asylum seekers created a counter-narrative to government propaganda reported in media 2000-2003</td>
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<td>Saba Bebawi &amp; John Cokley: Safe Haven: stage 1 of a comparative analysis of reporting refugees in Jordan and Australia</td>
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<td>Lisa Wilshere-Cumming: Crossing Borders and Boundaries: New pedagogies in journalism research through acquired brain injury representation – forging new narratives through improved praxis</td>
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<td>Marc Bryant and Jennifer Locke: Eating disorders: incorporating an emerging issue into the Mindframe for journalism education curricula resources</td>
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<td>Mark Pearson and Tom Morton: Forensic patients, investigative journalism, and open justice: towards a mindfulness-based approach to journalism ethics</td>
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<td>Trevor Cullen: Assessing the quality of medical journalism in Australia: Ten years of media doctor</td>
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<td>Sharon Mascall-Dare and Matthew Ricketson: What did you do in the war? The ethics of interviewing veterans for the Anzac Centenary</td>
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<td>Apurva Kirti Sharma: Challenge of independence and governance of public service broadcasters during the time of war: A case study: Minister Richard Alston’s complaints against ABC Radio National’s AM show reportage of the Iraq War</td>
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<td>Maxine Newlands: Blurring the Journalistic Boundaries between Pedagogy and a Mediatised Society</td>
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KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Monday, December 2, 9.45-10.45am

Professor Thomas Hanitzsch

Thomas Hanitzsch is Professor of Communication at the University of Munich, Germany. He founded and chaired the Journalism Studies Division of the International Communication Association. A former journalist, his teaching and research focuses on global journalism cultures, war coverage, celebrity news and comparative methodology. He is the Editor-in-Chief of Communication Theory (2012-2014), and has co-edited The Handbook of Journalism Studies (2009) and The Handbook of Comparative Communication Research (2012).

The Transformation of Journalism in a Global Context

The institution of journalism is in a state of change throughout the world. The keynote will highlight three critical aspects of this transformation and address implications for journalism research:

(1) Internet features and the rise of postmaterialist values have substantially shifted the terms of journalism’s contract with society. Journalists have moved away from their “classic” roles as gatekeepers to function as organizers and verifiers of public knowledge. Once exclusively tied to democracy and citizenship, the journalism of today places more emphasis on the needs and concerns of the people as individuals, thus helping them navigate an increasingly multi-optional world of lifestyles and coping with the task of identity construction. Journalism research therefore needs to pay more attention to the worlds of journalism beyond what is often conceived as the “mainstream.”

(2) The boundaries of journalism have become fuzzier than ever with the emergence of participatory or citizen-based forms of information exchange in the Web. Some of us argue that the rise of user-generated content may lead to a future in which journalism has lost its relevance to public conversation. Confusing journalism with participatory modes of communication, however, is part of the problem rather than a solution. In an era of potentially unlimited access to and accelerated exchange of information, professional journalists as sense-makers of the actualities of the day are needed more than ever.

(3) Scholars throughout the western world noted startling signs of declining public trust in journalism. In a world of shrinking confidence in the media, it seems, journalism is pushing itself to the margins of public debate. Comparative research, however, shows that even among developed democracies, the dramatic decline of trust in journalism does not constitute a universal phenomenon but is, in fact, mostly limited to the Anglo-Saxon context. We therefore need more comparative journalism research in order to investigate the true causes of shrinking public trust in journalism.
KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Tuesday, December 3, 9.30-10.30am

Associate Professor Alfred Hermida

Prof Alfred Hermida is an award-winning British online news pioneer, digital media scholar and journalism educator. An associate professor at the Graduate School of Journalism, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada, he studies the intersection of communication technologies, journalism and the networked society. His research has been published in *Journalism Studies, Journalism Practice* and the *Journal of Broadcasting and Electronic Media*. He is co-author of *Participatory Journalism: Guarding Open Gates at Online Newspapers*, (Wiley-Blackwell, 2011), and is working on his new book, *Tell Everyone: How the Stories We Share Shape What We Know*, due to be published by Doubleday Canada. Prof Hermida is a 16-year veteran of the BBC and was a founding news editor of the BBC News website in 1997.

When facts are fluid: Emerging best practices to verify information on social media

Journalists have always had to balance the need to be fast with the need to be right. The explosion in material from the audience, coupled with the speed and reach of social media, has placed strains on the traditional verification practices. Politicians and celebrities are prematurely declared dead. Terror suspects are misidentified. These are the times when reliable providers of information are most valuable, given the surfeit of speculation, rumour and opinion on social media. Journalists have traditionally filled this role as verification has been at the core of journalism. This talk outlines best practices in social media verification, providing a toolkit to teach the journalists of tomorrow how to make sense the torrents of tweets.
KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

*Wednesday, December 4, 9.30-10.30am*

**Ms Cath Dwyer**

Cath Dwyer is Project Director of ABC Open, which facilitates participatory media production with regional communities, teaching digital skills, collecting and curating media content and distributing it through the ABC. Previous to this, Cath worked as a radio producer, initially in community radio and then for nearly 20 years at the ABC. She was an ABC Local Radio producer in regional NSW, co-ordinator of the Women’s Unit at Radio National and producer/presenter of The Coming Out Show, and Special Projects and Features Producer at triple j. She has worked on news, current affairs, arts, magazine and feature programs, and has produced several cross platform projects across radio and online for the ABC. Cath has also dabbled in writing and short film, and from time to time has lectured in radio and journalism at Macquarie University and the University of Technology.

**Homegrown – Why regional stories are thriving globally**

In a converged media market, audiences have more options than ever before about what they consume and where it comes from. Yet, in this world of increasing choice, locally produced media stories made by non-professionals are gaining new currency. Since September 2010, ABC Open has published and distributed over 40,000 photos, text stories and videos, created by its audience. This new participatory model provides both opportunities and challenges to media organisations and those who work and are preparing to work for them. This talk will provide an overview of this model and discuss its implications for the future.
This panel seeks to start discussions for the formulation of a Journalism Research Vision to help inform the JEAA’s future research agenda. Journalism scholars and practitioners are facing considerable challenges. It is important, therefore, for JEAA to provide institutional support to build the research capacity of our members to address new research questions. This discussion is not intended to define the type of research questions to be asked. Rather, it aims to identify how JEAA might facilitate and build the research capacity of our members to ensure we are undertaking relevant and meaningful research. Ultimately these discussions should enable the JEAA to prioritize its research-related activities to reflect the needs of its members and the on-going research requirements of our field.

By way of example, the 2014 IAMCR conference in Dublin hosted a special session titled New Media, New Literacies, New research Agenda. The roundtable discussed the future agenda of media research from a broad perspective, based on the conclusions of the ESF European Science Foundation Forward Look Report on Media in Europe: New Questions for Research.

The report titled, "Media Studies: New Media and New Literacies", sought to identify a common European research agenda and make recommendations about the institutional frameworks that would help advance the organizational cohesion of European media research. Information about the project is available in a special issue of Javnost – The Public, which can be access at http://www.esf.org/coordinating-research/forward-looks/humanities-hum/current-forwards-looks/media-studies-new-media-and-new-literacies.html.

This panel session is designed to investigate ways in which the JEAA might strengthen research capabilities and interactions to:

1. Highlight the importance of journalism research at an institutional and policy level.
2. Foster research ties and networks regionally, nationally and globally.
3. Facilitate and strengthen members’ capacity to undertake relevant and meaningful research which contributes to the broader social issues of the era.
4. Forge knowledge transfer between academy, industry and policy stakeholders in Australia and internationally.

One of the most significant shifts in Australian journalism in the past 12 months has been the massive loss of journalists from the country’s major newspaper and television newsrooms. The journalists’ union estimates that around 1000 journalists became redundant in 2012. This represents the biggest loss of newsroom workforce in the past 25 years. This panel will examine two questions that arise from these job losses: first, what are these journalists doing now, and, second, what is happening to editorial agendas, news values and content standards as a result of the loss of journalistic expertise from the major newsrooms? A panel of six journalism researchers and professional journalists will take up these questions. Lawrie Zion, the lead Chief Investigator on ‘New Beats’, a five-year research project investigating change in professional Australian journalism, will introduce the study, explain the rationale for his team’s creation of an information-sharing and data-gathering network of journalists who became redundant in 2012, and discuss some of the challenges of longitudinal analysis of the journalistic employment paths and prospects. Peter Fray will outline the new direction his journalistic career has taken as Editor-in-Chief of PolitiFact and discuss the role of this kind of independent, online, specialist journalistic venture in the changing news landscape. Penny O’Donnell will discuss some aspects of the ugly underbelly of structural change in the news industry, including accelerated monetisation of news, de-professionalisation, and patchy content standards. Matthew Ricketson will discuss what shrinking newsrooms mean for journalism’s capacity to comprehensively cover
what is going on in society, and to contribute to democracy. And Andrew Dodd will discuss the extent to which media organisations can retain corporate memory after shedding so many experienced staff.

**Threshold Learning Standards: Issues for Australian University-Level Programs in Journalism, Media and Communications**

*Tuesday 1045-1200, Mantra Room*

Presenters: Rhonda Breit, Angela Romano, Kerry McCallum, Clair Hughes

Australian universities will be expected to show from 2014 that the Learning Outcomes for all their degrees and other qualifications comply with the threshold learning standards set by the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF). In the absence of any strong or coordinated response by journalism, media and communication academics to these new requirements, the JEAA initiated and led the JoMeC (Journalism, Media and Communication) Network in partnership with ANZCA (Australia & New Zealand Communication Association). The JoMeC Network’s key activity has been an attempt to devise three sets of Learning Outcome statements that will reflect the threshold standards for Bachelor and Master’s coursework programs in three fields – Journalism, Media & Communication Studies, and Public Relations. This panel will involve presentations plus interactive activities to enable deliberation on issues that arise from the JoMeC Network’s activities and findings.

Learning Outcome statements are particularly significant because the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA) will use them as key tools in assessing whether the performance of higher educational institutions meet the standards outlined by the AQF. TEQSA will seek evidence as to whether graduating students meet the threshold learning standards embodied by those Learning Outcome statements, and from that determine whether qualifications should registered under the Higher Education Standards Framework. This creates an impetus for discipline communities to collaborate and develop “own” threshold learning standards that can be considered the minimum learning outcomes that university-level programs in that field. A secondary aim of the JoMeC project has been to develop a disciplinary learning and teaching network of scholars in the fields of Journalism, Public Relations and Communication and Media Studies. The “network” approach of the JoMeC group has aimed to draw from the strength of relationships that occur in a relatively open and interdisciplinary collaboration rather than being gridlocked by narrow disciplinary boundaries. Distinct from industry bodies, the JoMeC Network has provided a forum for the discussion and dissemination of learning standards and other relevant teaching and learning issues. After discussing how the JoMeC team developed proposed threshold learning standards for each of the three disciplines, the panel will conclude with exploration their practical application. The panel will discuss issues for academics in embedding threshold standards into curriculum and assessment, and for providing evidence to TEQSA that their qualifications meet threshold standards.

**Journalist welfare and self-care for reporting suicide and mental illness**

*Tuesday, 1445-1615, Harbour Room*

Presenters: Jenyfer Locke, Marc Byrant, Cait McMahon, Alex Wake, Jill Fisher, Joanne McCarthy

Working with DART Centre for Journalism and Trauma, the Mindframe National Media Initiative has identified the need to provide resources and support for journalists who cover suicide, self-harm and mental illness. Over the past 12 months, the collaboration has led to journalism welfare being included in the Mindframe’s media resources and the development of a broader online resource. These resources are to assist journalists in being attuned to and aware of issues which may arise, both for themselves and as peers. They also provide advice in relation to social and emotional wellbeing after reporting of suicide, mental illness and other traumatic incidents and encourage a trauma informed approach to be incorporated into journalism education curricula.

In particular, the move is timely as Mindframe also works with DART and other stakeholders with regards to supporting the media when covering the Royal Commission to investigate Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. The commission is likely to include many stories of self harm and suicide which may impact directly on reporters. It is recognised that employers and organisations not only need to raise awareness about vicarious trauma and to support and educate journalists about the emotional risk and protective factors, but also to be alert to the impacts of frequent and intensive reporting of trauma, and promote awareness of the importance of self-care to mitigate the emotional toll related to ongoing reporting of and exposure to trauma. The panel session will provide an
opportunity for Mindframe, journalism educators, media professionals and the mental health sector, to speak briefly about journalism welfare and suggest ways forward in navigating the challenges and risks of education about reporting on suicide, mental illness or other trauma related events.

**Journalism and Indigeneity: New Directions in Research, Teaching and Practice**  
*Tuesday, 1630-1745, Mantra Room*  
Presenters: Bonita Mason, Melissa Sweet, Kerry McCallum, Lisa Waller, Luke Pearson, Amy Maguire

This panel brings together journalism academics and Indigenous and non-indigenous practitioners. The aim is to engage conference delegates in a discussion about how new approaches in research and education, as well as recent innovations in industry and practice, can make a difference to Indigenous Affairs Reporting. The conference will hear from academics from around Australia who are generating new research approaches and developments in teaching Indigenous reporting. The academic members of the panel will be joined by several Indigenous media specialists (to be announced) for a discussion on the nexus between practice and research from an Indigenous perspective.

**Journalism students and journalist-source collaboration - Dr Bonita Mason, Curtin University, Western Australia**  
This paper discusses WA findings for journalism education from an Office of Learning and Teaching -funded Indigenous Community Engagement project, where students produced ‘fourth-estate’ journalism from within the context of a collaborative relationship with their Indigenous sources.

**Developing a decolonizing methodology for journalism – Melissa Sweet, University of Sydney/University of Canberra**  
This paper outlines some potential research approaches in Journalism, as suggested by decolonizing methodologies in other fields, including healthcare. It also examines the role of Twitter in the development and practice of such a methodology, and suggests that the upsurge of innovation associated with online journalism is creating a receptive environment for new approaches to Indigenous Affairs reporting, and particularly Indigenous health.

**Journalism, policy and reflexivity – Associate Professor Kerry McCallum, University of Canberra.**  
This paper reports on interviews with a range of policy actors for the Media and Indigenous Policy ARC Discovery project. Bureaucrats working in health and bilingual education described an ‘intimate relationship’ between journalism and the policymaking process, but how aware are journalists of their impacts on the policy, and how well are they listening to the wide range of voices that seek to be heard on these issues?

**Two-way capital and cultural competence – Dr Lisa Waller, Deakin University, Victoria**  
This paper interprets depth interviews with Indigenous reporting specialists to build understanding of what ‘cultural competence’ means for journalists working in ‘remote’ contexts in Northern Australia. It argues that journalism students need to be introduced to the concept of ‘cultural competence’ in learning how to work with Indigenous sources.

**Regional Journalism: Looking to the Future**  
*Wednesday, 1045-1200, Mantra Room*  
Presenters: Peter Owen, Cath Dwyer, Kristy Hess, Kathryn Bowd

What is the future of regional media and what is the role of the university sector and industry in shaping it? Recent debate in the United Kingdom around public subsidies for struggling regional media has refocused attention on the vital role these ventures play. Within the broader frame of understanding the future of journalism, regional media holds a core responsibility. Traditionally graduates have transitioned from university journalism programs to regional newsrooms, suggesting an important role for the collaboration of universities and these media organisations in the education of young journalists. What then are the challenges and opportunities for this sector? This panel will discuss these issues within the context of the broader debate of the future of journalism.
Women in the Media
Wednesday, 1430-1600, Harbour Room
Presenters: Wendy Bacon, Jenna Price, Jill Singer, Bonita Mason

Women and the media is a topic of long term scholarly interest, especially to those involved in feminist media studies. In Australia, there is a solid body of research but the theme has struggled to get onto the agenda in recent years. It regained public attention during the time of Julia Gillard’s Prime Ministership. This conference panel will focus on independent online publication New Matilda’s Women in the Media project. We regard this project, which has involved academics, young journalists and students, as a form of action research, combining both scholarly and journalistic approaches to produce fresh knowledge about women in the media. Academic researchers Wendy Bacon and Jenna Price will each present a five minute introduction to different aspects of the research including: developing a framework to explain the results; evaluation of project as form of action research; results in the context of previous scholarly research, including international research and future directions.
### PAPER PRESENTERS

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<td>Australian journalism after newspapers</td>
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<td>Lawrie Zion</td>
<td>New Beats: A study of Australian journalists who became redundant in 2012</td>
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<td>Margaret Simons and Brad Buller</td>
<td>Journals of Record - Measure of Quality or Dead Concept?</td>
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<td>Collette Snowden</td>
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<td>Scott Downman</td>
<td>Using Youtube to build research skills and enhance learning in a first year journalism course</td>
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<td>Marc Bryant and Jenifer Locke</td>
<td>Responsibility: Developing Journalism Curriculum Regarding Social Media and Community Risk</td>
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<td>Lee Duffield</td>
<td>Advances in journalism education through overseas reporting practice</td>
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<td>Akhteruz Zaman</td>
<td>Journalists' world: news and geographic space</td>
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<td>Amanda Gearing</td>
<td>Global story-telling in a socially-networked world</td>
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<td>Bunty Avieson</td>
<td>The news from Bhutan</td>
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<td>Colleen Murrell</td>
<td>International newsgathering in closed communities on Facebook</td>
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<td>Johan Lidberg</td>
<td>From Freedom to Right – where will Freedom of Information go in the age of WikiLeaks?</td>
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<td>Defamation: The reverse chilling effect</td>
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<td>Joseph M Fernandez</td>
<td>Journalists’ confidential sources: What protection against the sword the prevailing journalists’ shield laws?</td>
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<td>Towards a law of public relations in Australia – defining the territory</td>
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<td>Keith Russell</td>
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<td>Amy Forbes and Jane Fynes-Clinton</td>
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<td>Kathryn Bowd</td>
<td>Left behind or making their own way? Online and interactive communication and regional newspaper journalists’ professional practice</td>
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<td>Kayt Davies</td>
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<td>Folker Hanusch</td>
<td>A country/city divide? Comparing Australian regional and metropolitan journalists</td>
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<td>Chris Nash</td>
<td>Understanding journalism as a research discipline</td>
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<td>Gail Phillips</td>
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<td>John Cokley and Wendy Dubé</td>
<td>From Scratch: Development of a new theory of journalism using engineering principles and elaboration of a new taxonomy</td>
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<td>Karen Abplanalp</td>
<td>'Writing an investigative story with a media ban in place - rethinking Journalism Research'</td>
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<td>Steinar Ellingsen</td>
<td>The Inland Sea: An Experiment in Online Video Journalism</td>
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<td>Jeanti St Clair</td>
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<td>Lyn Barnes</td>
<td>Good grief: The traditional obituary is facing certain death in New Zealand newspapers as the focus moves more towards the survivors and their grieving</td>
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<td>Jiayu Queek, Dr Janet Fulton and Mr Paul Scott</td>
<td>'From both sides of the line: A case study of Singaporean and Malaysian print media during the Pedra Branca territorial dispute</td>
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<td>Lyn McGaurn</td>
<td>Working the Web: Artists, Environment and the New York Times</td>
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<td>Kasun Ubayasiri and Scott Downman</td>
<td>Human rights journalism and the reporting of refugee migration and human trafficking in Asia – Two case studies</td>
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<td>Stephen Tanner, Marcus O'Donnell, Kerry Green and Trevor Cullen</td>
<td>Australian journalism programs: are they listening to the needs of industry?</td>
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<td>Trevor Cullen</td>
<td>Views from news editors in Western Australia about what skills and attributes journalism graduates need in the digital newsroom</td>
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<td>Conceptualising media futures: Mapping communication students’ attitudinal change towards study and employment prospects over their first year at university</td>
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<td>Linda Jones and Martin Hirst</td>
<td>The newspaper crisis: measuring and understanding news readership and Internet use among journalism students in a convergence culture</td>
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<td>Andrew Dodd, Matthew Ricketson and Bill Birnbauer</td>
<td>Populating the emptying newsrooms: the implications of an emerging new role for journalism schools</td>
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<td>Fiona Martin</td>
<td>The politics of participation: online journalism and the nature of commenting work</td>
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<td>Mary Garden</td>
<td>Do you want a bit of Twitter with that? The changing landscape of blogging on mainstream news sites</td>
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<td>Julie Tullberg</td>
<td>Twitter abuse of AFL footballers</td>
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<td>Merryn Sherwood</td>
<td>The Mixed Zone: The role of Australian Sports Communication Practitioners in the Production of Sports News</td>
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<td>Peter English</td>
<td>State of play: sports journalism in the journalistic field in Australia, the United Kingdom and India</td>
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<td>Out of step? Newspaper coverage of the Jill Meagher march</td>
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<td>Katrina Clifford</td>
<td>‘News frames of police accountability and the strategic ritual of emotionality’</td>
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<td>Michael Meadows</td>
<td>Writing the country: the role of journalists and journalism in the Queensland national parks movement</td>
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<td>Jill Singer</td>
<td>Priests, Child Sex Abuse and Shades of Grey</td>
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<td>Jan Harkin</td>
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<td>Brian McNair, Stephen Harrington, Terry Flew</td>
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<td>Caroline Fisher</td>
<td>‘Watchdog’ versus ‘spin-doctor’ / ‘informer’ versus ‘advocate’: the inadequacy of oppositional portrayals of journalists and parliamentary media advisers</td>
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ABSTRACTS

Current and future trends in Journalism, Monday, 1300-1430

Penny O’Donnell
University of Sydney

Australian journalism after newspapers
This paper examines the question of how shrinking Australian newspaper newsrooms are responding to the massive job losses of 2012. Rod Tiffen once observed that ‘newspapers do the heavy-lifting’ in providing the Australian public with news because they employ more journalists than other media, produce more information, and therefore play a ‘pivotal role’ in setting the daily news agenda. This critical role in the news landscape was substantially undermined in 2012 when an estimated 1,000 Australian journalists became redundant. Most of the job losses were a direct result of major company restructuring at Fairfax Media and News Limited, although major television newsrooms also shed staff. Drawing on the literature about post-professional journalism, and a recent national study of newspaper journalists, this paper discusses how editorial agendas, news values, and content standards are changing as a result of the loss of journalistic expertise from the country’s major print newsrooms. It argues that shedding newsroom staff is not just a business strategy aimed at cutting costs and ensuring company viability but also a change management strategy aimed at redefining the professional culture of newsrooms by uprooting entrenched print-oriented news routines, conventions and ethics and replacing them with more flexible and reader-responsive work practices and values. It outlines key characteristics of converging Australian newspaper newsrooms before discussing three trends: declining autonomy, the dissipation of shared news norms and values, and an increasingly ambiguous social role in the face of competition from other digital news providers, including citizen journalism, and the rise of entertainment media and consumer-focused journalism.

Dr Penny O’Donnell is a Senior Lecturer in International Media and Journalism at the University of Sydney. Her main field of research is Journalism Studies and her most recent publications canvass the future of Australian newspapers, the dilemmas of post-professional journalism, and the news value of justice. Her latest research project, in collaboration with Associate Professor Lawrie Zion, Professor Matthew Ricketson, Professor Tim Majoribanks and Dr Andrew Dodd, is “New Beats: A study of Australian journalists who became redundant in 2012”.

Lawrie Zion
La Trobe University

New Beats: A study of Australian journalists who became redundant in 2012
In 2012 more than 1,000 Australian journalists became redundant. This means that 15 per cent of the journalism workforce left their jobs, and, in many cases, the profession. So, what has become of these journalists over the past 12 months? Have they found new jobs in journalism or elsewhere? Do they still identify themselves as professional journalists? These questions inform a planned five-year longitudinal study of change in professional Australian journalism undertaken by a team of five journalism researchers. This paper presents the findings of our first pilot survey on the employment patterns and prospects of journalists who became redundant last year. It outlines the project rationale and methodology before discussing responses to questions about jobs, the demand for journalistic expertise, new career directions, re-training, and the impact of redundancy on professional identity, family life and well-being. In addition, the project website, which acts as an information and networking hub for journalists who became redundant in 2012, will be presented (www.newbeatsblog.com). Drawing on existing research on the post-journalism experience, particularly from the USA, where the pattern of decline in legacy media jobs has been more prolonged, the paper will argue that professional journalism practice in Australia has been critically compromised by the loss of a substantial number of its most expert and experienced practitioners although, at the same time, there are signs of interesting new small-scale initiatives in digital journalism, such as Politifact.

Lawrie Zion is Associate Professor of Journalism at La Trobe University. He is the co-founder and editor in chief of upstart magazine (www.upstart.net.au) and is co-editing a book for Routledge in New York with the working title Ethics for Digital Journalists: Emerging Best Practices.

Margaret Simons and Brad Buller
University of Melbourne

Journals of Record - Measure of Quality or Dead Concept?
The concept of a "newspaper of record" is of longstanding. The category has historically consisted of newspapers (and not broadcast media) that are considered to meet high standards, including editorial independence and attention to accuracy, and which publish news and information about public events and forums. The key criteria have been comprehensiveness, contemporaneous coverage leading to easily accessible and understandable reports of events in key civic forums. Providing a journal of record has been understood as one of the core functions of print media, featuring in the foundation documents of publications such as The Manchester Guardian and the New York Times. In recent times, however, leading industry figures have suggested that the journal of record function is no longer relevant to modern news media, or not achievable. Others have suggested that internet based publication offers new opportunities for the journal of record, and at the same time organisations such as Wikileaks have coined terms such as "scientific journalism" for the practice of making comprehensive primary documents available to a wide public. In this paper, the authors review historical statements by media proprietors on their "journal of record" aspirations, and contrast these with recent statements by editorial executives and media proprietors before Australian inquiries into media standards. They conclude that aspirations for comprehensiveness have given way to a notion of questioning and campaigning journalism. There is a perception that journal of record functions now belong to public broadcasters alone. The authors argue, however, that the concept of journal of record remains central to the credibility of media outlets, and to the functions of news media in a democracy.

Associate Professor Margaret Simons is a journalist of more than 30 years’ experience, the author of ten books and the Director of the Centre for Advancing Journalism at the University of Melbourne. Her latest book is Journalism at the Crossroads - Crisis and Opportunity in the Press (Scribe, 2013).

Brad Buller is a postgraduate researcher and research assistant at the University of Melbourne. Through his current postgraduate diploma, Brad is researching the “institutional voice” of The Age newspaper. His intended PhD aims to investigate the Golden Era of Australian journalism, through the lens of legendary Age editor Graham Perkin.

Collette Snowden
University of South Australia

On the Pornography of Exaggeration: Information lust, misleading headlines and the corruption of news

This paper uses content analysis of a selection of news stories from Australian online news sites to examine the exaggeration and misrepresentation of news and information. From analysis of these examples, it argues that the online delivery of news and information increases misrepresentation of news, through exaggeration and the omission of critical facts and details. This paper examines the use of exaggeration as a device to stimulate and attract the attention of audiences and thus increase desire and curiosity for information. It considers this practice historically in more traditional news media, and in relation to the specific technological affordances of the online news delivery. It also examines the practice of exaggeration in a ‘borderless’ news environment, particularly in relation to traditional notions of news hierarchies in which location was significant. The practice of exaggeration and misrepresentation is assessed in the context of the increasing distance between professional media producers and their audiences and the sources of the news and information. It also considers the application of various forms of technology to measure and assess audience responses and reactions, to investigate the “pornography” of exaggeration.

Collette Snowden's research focuses on the impact of new technologies and communication processes on media professionals and media practices, and on its associated public communication and social practices. Her work interrogates the technological transformation of media processes and practices, and the subsequent transformation of society and its institutions.

Alex Wake
RMIT University

Read all about it: Aussie journo's are hurting democracy

The role of the journalist as a watchdog on government has long been considered the nirvana of journalistic work. Why then, are the people who used to be known simply as readers, more interested in consuming news about the health of Kim Kadashian’s stray Chihuahua than the health of our parliamentary democracy? Journalism in Australia has worked for many years as an omnibus, simultaneously entertaining readers and making money for newspaper proprietors while also providing a watchdog function to inform the public of the happenings of government. This paper argues that these competing interests have created an imperfect model of journalism. The funding model has meant that Australian journalists working the commercial sector have generally only produced work for a middle class audience in a political environment where one party is barely different to the next, with stories of celebrity and
the sexuality of the prime minister’s partner being highlighted ahead of public policy. According to US academic John Nerone (2010) the reason that journalism began to fail in its duty to democracy, is that when journalists are working under the Western hegemonic model, they do not have enough real independence to consistently provide reports which critique government. Nerone notes that media owners have tricked the public into believing journalists had the watchdog autonomy: “This was a fantasy. But fantasies do their work in the world, and when this one worked well, it allowed journalists to claim autonomy from both the state and their own employers. Enough great journalists did enough good journalism to enforce something you could call the regulative fiction of public intelligence” (Nerone 2012, p. 10). This paper argues that Australian news organisations which use celebrity, sex and novelty to attract readers, are undermining the most important function of journalism – keeping a watch on government and big business. And that is a concern, not just for Australians who operate under a belief that journalists are seriously completing their watchdog role, but in other countries where Australian journalistic traditions are being exported by Australian journalism educators.

Alexandra Wake has been a journalist for 25 years. Although initially trained in print, she has adapted to other technologies and now boasts a career spanning radio, television and online. She currently teaches Radio Journalism and Internship at RMIT University. Alex has worked in Australia, Ireland, South Africa and the United Arab Emirates, and still works as freelance editor and news reader at ABC Radio Australia. Alex is enrolled in her PhD at Deakin University looking at journalism education conducted by Australians and New Zealanders.

Journalism Education, Monday, 1300-1430

Renee Barnes
University of the Sunshine Coast

Embedding the audience in the teaching of online journalism

There has been much scholarly attention paid to the role of audience participation in the future of journalism. In particular, this work has focused on how this changing paradigm is perceived by journalists and the potential for enhanced democratisation of the media. However, very little work has focused on how the audience conceptualises their role in news production. This is despite as Fenton and Witschge (2011, p. 160) note: “The increasing presence of non-professional or citizen journalists is suggestive of a different type of journalism that may be able to disrupt and change institutionalised journalism in particular circumstances.” During on a survey of online news website readers and textual analysis of reader comments following news stories, this paper will argue that understanding how the audience perceives participation on online news websites provides a more complete picture of the role of the audience in online news production. Ultimately it argues that a new definition of participation must be considered when educating future online journalists, one which does not privilege participation that involves active contributions, but is inclusive of audience members who ‘internalise’ their participation.

Renee Barnes is a senior lecturer at the University of the Sunshine Coast.

Scott Downman
University of Queensland

Using Youtube to build research skills and enhance learning in a first year journalism course

In recent years teaching scholarship has been saturated with research into the impact of social media on the classroom learning experience. Research into the use of video sharing sites such as Youtube or Vimeo has generally centred on how these tools can be integrated into the class to provide visual illustrations to support student learning. However, little research has been conducted on how direct student interaction with these platforms or embedding their use into assessment tasks can enhance learning outcomes. This paper will document how Youtube was used to develop and build research skills in a first year journalism cohort. The research focusses on students who created a five minute Youtube visual essay as an assessment option rather than completing a traditional academic essay. As part of the assessment, students were required to research, film and document the media’s representation of a social issue with an Australian context. They were also required to complete an academically-referenced exegesis explaining their theoretical rationale and the framework they used for representing the social issue in the way they did. Students who completed the task unanimously agreed that creatively presenting their topic on Youtube ultimately enhanced their engagement with the assessment task and got them ‘excited’ about academic research, the media and journalism.
Advances in journalism education through overseas reporting practice

What are the possibilities for journalism education in the present climate of strong institutional support for work integrated learning and of internationalisation of the curriculum in higher education? The paper addresses these questions firstly by visiting relevant pedagogical theory and the declarations of national education authorities and universities, on the above two policy developments. Secondly, it provides a case study of journalism reporting fields trips conducted by the writer with small groups of students, bringing up to date earlier, published work, 2005-10. Similar projects are referred to descriptively to strengthen the explanation of the contemporary situation given in this paper. It is, that the general context of work integrated learning and internationalisation has caught up with the tradition of journalism teaching; where that involves learning of principles through practice with close links to professional practice in industry. The catch-up has made the practice more institutionalised, with stricter accountability to university requirements, but with better recognition and course credit for students, some improved access to resources, potential for expansion of travel programs, and opportunities for ongoing research. A theme established in previous research remains, that practice in distant and unfamiliar settings intensifies the journalistic experience, hence learning about journalism; and that the professional preparation involved can extend to preparing students to practice anywhere in the world. The case studies place significant reliance on student diaries and feedback, and they inevitably encounter issues to do with multi-cultural learning. They refer to advances in information and communication technology as an enabling factor, creating ease in the field and improving productivity; if at the expense of the charismatic impact to be got through reporting from afar. Main texts were consulted in backgrounding the discussion on overseas reporting, viz Deutz M on journalism education; Hess S and U
Hannerz on foreign news reporting; Knight J on internationalisation of the higher education curriculum; Lave J and E Wenger on situational learning.

Dr Lee Duffield, Senior Lecturer in Journalism at QUT, Brisbane, spent over 20 years with the Australian ABC, serving as first news editor on the Triple-Jay youth network, and as European Correspondent covering the Berlin Wall. He writes on media in Europe, development news in the Asia Pacific, new media, and internationalisation of the curriculum.

**International Journalism 1, Monday, 1300-1430**

Akhteruz Zaman

UTS

**Journalists’ world: news and geographic space**

This paper critiques the implicit assumption that journalism is all about ideas and information, and its material dimensions are of little relevance. According to this assumption, what has happened or what is said is more relevant than where the journalists work or what geographic picture they depict overall. This paper contends that, for a grounded understanding of journalism, the above assumption warrants critical scrutiny. In order to do so, it examines the relevance of geographic space to journalism and assesses the professional ideals of neutrality and balance in the context of the relational concept of space (Massey 2005; Harvey 2006). It studies the overall image of the world expected in news and the journalists’ view of the picture depicted in the content they produce. News content is generally expected to be skewed, and tuned to the geographic contours. However, interviews of journalists working in the ABC’s Sydney newsroom showed a mixed view of the picture found in news content. Many journalists think the picture of the world in the ABC news is indeed skewed, but others defend their organisation claiming that it provides an overall balanced picture. This mixed view can be explained by rejecting the simplistic outlook of proximity as a straightforward news value (i.e., the nearest is the most important news) and adopting a relational approach to space. The disparity between the journalists’ view of their content and a logical expectation of it rejects the simplistic imagination of news in terms of distance and envisages multiple layers of conceptualisation of news and geographic space, which may be found in Harvey’s notions of absolute, relative and relational spaces. The complexity of connection between news and geographic space also lends to Massey’s idea that social space is a product of interrelations between various factors and forces, which are always ongoing, always in the making, and never produces a complete whole. The nature of news work is similarly always unfinished, which easily relates it to the variegated nature of geographic space and renders the celebrated ideals of balance and neutrality in journalism unstable.

Akhteruz Zaman holds a PhD and teaches journalism and communication at UTS. He also taught journalism at Monash. Zaman has professional experience from overseas where he worked in television news, wire service and news magazine. His research interest involves the relationship between journalism and space, conflict reporting and environmental journalism.

Torpekai Amakhil and Jillian Hocking

The United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan and Swinburne University

**The war on journalism in Afghanistan – Western media’s responsibility to understand**

With the fall of the Taliban ten years ago, journalism and journalism education became a crucial element in rebuilding infrastructure, and the life of the country in Afghanistan. With key warlords driven out of Kabul, a plethora of radio networks emerged, however journalism education and consequent broadcasting standards remain questionable and the majority of these networks are influenced by powerful political and religious figures. Radio remains the principle source of information for Afghans, particularly in the regions. Eighty percent of Afghanistan’s population is illiterate; consequently radio remains the primary method used for community outreach and advocacy. Afghan society is struggling to overcome and address violations of human rights, widespread corruption, internecine ethnic hostilities and regional conflicts. Under this backdrop media education and media literacy play an integral role in supporting the country’s move towards the establishment of democratic process and associated key institutions. International western journalists are told by their senior editors that positives stories about progress and development in Afghanistan will not be published. Part of the frustration for Afghan journalists is the constant negative reporting in western media, making Afghans feel a sense of hopelessness and despair.

We see our session at the conference as being colourful and dynamic, illustrating our work through journalistic examples, photographs and video. We are not keen to stand and deliver a paper; we would prefer participants learn
more about Afghanistan and journalism education through its media landscape, to break through the western media’s portrayal of Afghanistan solely as a war zone.

Torpekai Amakhil is one of Afghanistan’s few women TV news readers. She is also a journalist and reporter for UNAMA, the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, producing and presenting a weekly half hour radio program on the national state broadcaster RTA, Radio Television Afghanistan.

Jillian Hocking was until last year, Head of Radio Broadcasting for the United Nations in Afghanistan. She has widespread experience teaching journalists in former Soviet States for BBC Media Action. Last year she was awarded a Vice Chancellor’s Teacher of the Year Award at Swinburne University.

Amanda Gearing
QUT
Global story-telling in a socially-networked world
Journalists work in an intensively time-pressured environment, researching and writing to daily, often 24 hour, deadlines and always aware of the competition with other news outlets to be first with the news. This results, as Karen Sanders has observed, in journalists having very little time for reflection. “If they do reflect, it’s usually after a decision has been made” (Sanders 2003, 168). Yet time for reflection upon professional practice is important, especially in an era of extremely rapid and seismic technological change in the global media. This paper will reflect upon how freelance journalists can use advances in social media and web-based connectedness to tell global stories via mainstream media outlets. In exploring this question, I will examine the techniques and communications technologies used by three reporters working in the UK and Australia to find, investigate and break a series of articles, published simultaneously on the front pages of The Australian and The Times (London) newspapers, was a result of a six month investigation. The series exposed a 50-year cover-up of the serial abuse of children by one of the Church of England’s most senior clergy, Robert Waddington, in Australia and the UK. It unearthed the existence of a culture of physical and sexual abuse at St Barnabas boarding school in Queensland, the sudden closure of the school and disappearance of student files - as well as Waddington’s subsequent offences against children while Dean of Manchester Cathedral. We produced more than 20 articles. The coverage sparked church-ordered investigations in both countries, and also prompted the Archbishop of Canterbury to order a commission of inquiry – headed by a sitting UK judge - as well as a nationwide child safety audit of dioceses in Britain. In Australia, the church referred the case and handed its files to the Royal Commission into Child Sexual Abuse. The coverage marked the first publishing collaboration between The Australian and The Times to break an exclusive story in Australia and Britain simultaneously, on May 10, 2013.

Amanda Gearing won a Walkley Award for Best Radio Documentary in 2012 for her ABC documentary The day that changed Grantham. She completed an MA Research last year and her first book The Torrent was published by UQ Press. This year she broke a global story simultaneously in Australia and Britain with colleagues in Australia and London.

Bunty Avieson
Macquarie University
The news from Bhutan
Just two decades ago, the small Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan was a feudal monarchy with short-wave radio and one little-read government gazette. Today it is a modern, digitally-connected democracy with a vibrant growing media space that is fed by newspapers, television, radio, the Internet, mobile phones and social media including Facebook and Twitter. In Europe the media revolutions of print, then electronic, and most recently digital, occurred over centuries, each one bringing massive political and social transformations. In Bhutan these revolutions are happening simultaneously, creating a new mediascape that is modern, inclusive and culturally specific. In this society - which is traditionally oral, isolated, inward-looking and hermetic, with just 56 percent literacy and no print media culture - newspapers have not achieved mass market penetration. However mobile phones, television and social media have gained immediate traction, creating a growing public space for discourse and the construction of national identity. For example, yak herders in the mountains were able to stream parliamentary proceedings live through the radio on their mobile phones; Facebook provided a platform for public discussion of contentious tobacco laws; and in July journalists gave live election updates via Twitter. Bhutan’s media space provides Michel Foucault’s systems of dispersion, Benedict Anderson’s imagined nation and Arjun Appadurai’s “constructed landscape of collective aspirations”. While the developed world grapples with the changes brought by media convergence and the collapse of old economic models, Bhutan is utilizing all the modern technologies, free of any
legacy of print capitalism. Modern media technologies emerged in the west, arising out of western needs and practices. The way that Bhutan as a non-western culture is approaching the unrealized potential of modern media, provides a fresh place from which to (re)think established notions of media and its efficacies.

Bunty Avieson. Macquarie University. (AsDpJn, RMIT; MPhil, MQ.) In 2008/9 she went to Bhutan as a media consultant, funded by the UN, to work with new independent newspaper Bhutan Observer, training journalists and advising management. Her thesis on the media in Bhutan is under submission for a Doctor of Philosophy.

Colleen Murrell
Deakin University
**International newsgathering in closed communities on Facebook**

Social network sites (SNSs) have redefined how journalists gather and exchange information. While Twitter has evolved into a news dissemination system par excellence, Facebook has remained a platform for sharing more focused information among groups of individuals whose professional lives have common factors. The Vulture Club is a closed community which groups together people who work in countries in conflict: foreign correspondents, photographers and NGO workers. The journalists are largely freelancers and on the site they exchange logistical and editorial information, contacts and resources and are asked by the administrators to keep the site non-competitive. This ‘secret’ status site is being used by its members to garner resources that previously were only available to mainstream staff correspondents, whose careers were underpinned by in-house resources, contacts and training. Most of the posts on this site are seeking advice on news production issues in other countries – these include inquiries about experienced fixers, available camera operators, visa requirements, safety gear, hotels and insurance. The site is also used for links to relevant stories, drawing attention to possible human rights abuses and for socializing in inhospitable datelines. This paper uses content analysis to explore four weeks of posts on the VC site. It concentrates in particular on requests by journalists for help with finding fixers in different countries and will compare this online, freelance model to a previous research study on staff correspondents and their fixers (Murrell 2009 & 2010). This paper uses the theories of Pierre Bourdieu related to the acquisition and uses of social capital. It poses the question - do online social network sites help to level the ground for freelancers in the field of foreign correspondence? The references to data on this site will keep all the information about members anonymous.

Dr Colleen Murrell is Senior Lecturer at Deakin University, Melbourne

**Legal and Ethical Aspects of Journalism, Monday, 1445-1615**

Johan Lidberg
Monash University

**From Freedom to Right – where will Freedom of Information go in the age of WikiLeaks?**

Access to information remains a fundamental provision in the practice of journalism; regardless of the upheaval the profession and the industry are currently experiencing. The last 20 years have seen a dramatic increase in the number of Freedom of Information, FOI, laws around the world. In 1990 there were only 13 active laws, in 2013 there are 90 plus and counting (Freedominfo, 2012) . It can be argued that FOI laws have become a ‘democratic rite of passage’ (Lidberg, 2009) where enacting access to information systems are seen as confirmation that a country has democratically come of age. Hence, FOI has become a potent way of measuring democratic evolution. However, a large body of research shows that passing the laws is the easy part; making them work in practice is the challenge (Lidberg, 2003, 2009; Roberts, 2006; Snell, 2002). Based on the author’s more than decade long international comparative research into FOI functionality the paper will discuss the evolution of FOI during this time. Furthermore, the paper will outline WikiLeaks’s impact on information access and describe a current research project in Australia aiming to assess and benchmark all FOI systems in the country. In conclusion, the paper will discuss the prospect of global FOI functionality monitoring and outline the next frontier in information access research – the corporate sector.

Dr Johan Lidberg is a senior lecturer in the School of Journalism, Australian and Indigenous Studies at Monash University. His research projects have laid the foundation for an internationally replicable method to assess the practical functionality of access to information regimes. He serves on the International Advisory Council to the Right to Information Rating, http://www.rti-rating.org/. His second research area is media and journalistic accountability and regulation.
Jolyon Sykes

Defamation: The reverse chilling effect

This paper will attempt to debunk the proposition that current Australian defamation law inhibits free speech to the point where the proper functioning of democratic processes is jeopardized. The so-called chilling effect, whereby journalists and commentators supposedly refrain from freely expressing their opinions on important matters because of the ever-present threat of an action for damages is, in my view, exaggerated and I will support this opinion with real-life examples, including some from my personal experience. The paper will propose that the alternative proposition, that people who have been defamed are deterred from initiating legal action by the cost of so doing, is more in keeping with reality.

After a relatively exciting career in special interest magazine publishing, ranging from Australian history and coin collecting to high performance cars and drag-racing, Jolyon entered the field of academic research in 1999 as assistant to the late Professor Clem Lloyd at the University of Wollongong. Since then, he has assisted on a number of research projects and applications for research funding. He is currently the treasurer of the JEAA and secretary-treasurer of ANZCA.

Joseph M Fernandez
Curtin University

Journalists’ confidential sources: What protection against the sword the prevailing journalists’ shield laws?
The journalism fraternity’s initial optimism at the introduction of statutory shield protection has been afflicted by doubt in the face of actions in the courts to discover journalists’ confidential sources. The MEAA has noted that it is “unprecedented in Australia that so many journalists are simultaneously in this position”. Protection for journalists’ confidential sources has attracted law reform attention for about two decades. The initial hurdle – whether the protection of journalists’ confidential sources should be enshrined in statute – was overcome at Commonwealth level in 2007. New South Wales became the first state to adopt shield law through statute. Since then momentum has gathered to the point that statutory shield protection is available in all but three jurisdictions. The passage of the federal shield law in 2011 was greeted by the MEAA as giving “some cause for optimism.” More recent events, however, have given rise to concern about the effectiveness of the protection. Australia’s multi-jurisdictional law-making framework has produced a mix of legislative measures all ostensibly aimed at offering greater protection for journalists’ confidential sources. The lawmakers have invariably professed a commitment to affording greater protection to journalists’ confidential sources. Where shield protection has been introduced, the lawmakers claim that their provisions strike the right balance. The occasional judicial scepticism towards the media shield has undermined the media’s confidence in present shield law protection. At no time did the media seek absolute protection or “a system of open slather”. Such a goal would have been unreasonable given, for example, the imperatives of the proper administration of justice. How then can a proper shield be designed and be made to work effectively? This paper considers the current state of affairs in relation to court actions against journalists involving shield law protection; it identifies some key areas of statutory difficulty; and proposes a way forward for a unified national shield law scheme. It does this by considering court judgments, parliamentary debates, academic literature and media commentary on the subject.

Associate Professor Fernandez heads Curtin University’s journalism department and he teaches media law. He is the author of Media Law in Australia: Principles, Pitfalls and Potentials 2013. He has been active in the Australian shield law crusade for more than a decade.

Mark Pearson
Griffith University

Towards a law of public relations in Australia – defining the territory

This paper proposes the key areas of law that might be encompassed in a ‘law of public relations’ and draws upon a developing body of cases to illustrate how PR firms and practitioners have featured in Australian courts. It explains that while there are few laws applying exclusively to public relations in Australia, there is a growing list of cases where PR firms and practitioners have featured. PR is a self-regulated industry via organisations like the Public Relations Institute of Australia, which only has the power to determine its membership and the ethical code it expects its members to follow. The paper explains the laws affecting public relations personnel vary according to the services offered, the organisation type and structure, clients’ specialised fields of operation, and the location of a practice and its clients. This effectively means hundreds of laws have the potential to impact on a public relations professional’s work, depending upon the tasks they are performing in their work. For example, media relations encompasses the laws affecting journalists - including defamation, contempt of court, intellectual property and even
Interestingly, there was no indicated deterioration in the students’ changes in the students’ media consumption, the role of journalists and journalism’s value to the community served. The information gathered included the students’ backgrounds, perceptions and expectations of the university. We surveyed the now second year students in the first teaching week of the academic year and compared their responses to those lodged in Orientation Week last year. We also surveyed this year’s first-year students in O-Week, and compared the responses with those from last year’s group. In addition, we conducted focus group interviews with the second-year students, which adds a qualitative element to the study. The information gathered included the students’ backgrounds, perceptions and expectations of the university experience, views and perceptions of the journalism profession as well as aspirations. The initial data has indicated changes in the students’ media consumption, the role of journalists and journalism’s value to the community served. Interestingly, there was no indicated deterioration in the students’ expectation that they would secure jobs at the end of their degree. The same cohort of students will be resurveyed next year to plot what changes in their
perception of journalism, if any, will result from their final year of education. It will also continue to plot their views of themselves as emerging journalists.

Dr Amy Forbes is senior lecturer and head of multimedia journalism at James Cook University, Townsville, Queensland.
Jane Fynes-Clinton is lecturer in journalism at the University of the Sunshine Coast, Maroochydore, Queensland and a columnist at The Courier Mail newspaper in Brisbane.

Kathryn Bowd
University of Adelaide
Left behind or making their own way? Online and interactive communication and regional newspaper journalists’ professional practice
The impact of the shift of news audiences online has garnered increasing attention in recent times because of its effects on the practice of journalism and the business models that sustain it. In metropolitan newsrooms around the Western world, the effects of falling audiences for traditional news media are being keenly felt, flowing through to staff cuts and, in some cases, the replacement of print with online publication. But the broader impacts on journalism practice are still becoming apparent, as journalists utilise convergence technologies and deal with the effects of shifting audiences and changing demographics. Much of the research that has so far been done in this area has focused on metropolitan news outlets, with relatively little attention paid to small-town news media and the ways in which convergence technologies and internet-based communications tools are affecting them. In part, this may reflect the relatively slow and fragmented adoption of such tools by these news outlets. In Australia, for example, regional newspapers have tended to lag behind their metropolitan counterparts in adopting interactive communications technologies for reasons including limited resources and an older readership. In addition, the often relatively close relationships between such outlets and their audiences may reduce the perceived need to publish and interact online. This paper reports findings of a pilot study into ways in which journalists at local newspapers in three Australian states are utilising developing communications tools and technologies – such as social media – in gathering and communicating news, and the effects this is having on their professional practice. The qualitative study sought the perspectives of journalists employed by three newspapers about the influence of online-based communications tools on their work. The research also considered whether their experiences are similar to those suggested by studies into metropolitan journalistic experiences, or whether these journalists are finding their own ways of using such technologies. While the study focuses on regional newspapers, the findings may also have relevance for journalism practice more broadly in a time of rapid change.

Dr Kathryn Bowd is a senior lecturer in Media and Journalism at the University of Adelaide in South Australia. The study was funded by a research grant from the JEAA.

Kayt Davies
Edith Cowan University
Tracking Onslow – Hyperlocal journalism illuminating major resource project impacts
Tracking Onslow is a collaborative project between the Edith Cowan University Journalism Program and the Shire of Ashburton (from the Pilbara in WA’s mid-west). The project is documenting social and physical changes in the town of Onslow between 2012 and 2016. This is a period of intense change for the historic town as two gas hubs now under construction are bringing in $250 million in community infrastructure funding and 5000 construction phase workers. In 2011 the town had a population of 500 and was secluded by virtue of being located at the end of an 80km unsealed road. The Shire is funding a visit to the town every six months by a group of 3-6 journalism students and a staff member. Each time the students produce a magazine for hardcopy distribution within the town and for online dissemination, the project also has a website featuring photo galleries and videos. In terms of media theory the project is exploring hyperlocal media practice and how it is can be used to maintain and support social cohesion in a time of transformation, how sustained media attention can shed light on slow processes and promote better understanding of the impact of major resource projects, as well as new media and mobile device skill development in journalism students. This paper will present outcomes of the first three visits to Onslow, and discuss the evolution of the first half of the project.

Dr Kayt Davies is a senior lecturer at Edith Cowan University in Perth. She teaches Business, Science, Political and Health Journalism and runs a newsroom that produces a publication called 3rd Degree. Her research interests
include journalism in oppressive contexts, journalism as research and HREC approvals, and journalism supporting vulnerable communities in remote Australia.

Michael Meadows
Griffith University
Making a difference: local journalism practices and representations of multiculturalism
Much of the literature on media representations of cultural diversity is critical of the narrow frames in which journalists and their media organizations tend to ‘see’ cultural diversity in the Australian community. More recent national media coverage of asylum-seekers arriving by boat to Australian shores has created a moral panic which has galvanized political solutions at the extreme conservative end of the scale. This has occurred despite the relatively small number of refugees and those seeking refugee status involved when compared with the international movement of displaced people. The mainstream media have played a critical role in ‘imagining’ an Australia under attack from hordes of ‘boat people’. This kind of news coverage, in the absence of more considered voices, has the potential to create an atmosphere of fear and distrust of all those who speak and appear to be ‘different’. So how is it that one local newspaper in Queensland was able to swim against this tide of negativity? This presentation examines 12 months’ coverage of cultural diversity issues in the Logan-based newspaper, the Albert and Logan News, and explores reasons why this particular News Ltd publication seemed able to represent diverse voices without unnecessary conflict when its parent group seemed hellbent on creating division in the Australian community. Then presentation will draw on an analysis of news articles during the period and an interview with the editor at the time. It suggests that individuals can make a difference in approaching such issues.

Michael Meadows is Professor of Journalism at Griffith University.

Folker Hanusch
University of the Sunshine Coast
A country/city divide? Comparing Australian regional and metropolitan journalists
Few studies of journalism culture have explored internal divisions within nations, with most focussing on national characteristics across different news media. Only relatively recently have a few international studies explored the role that regional or local news media play, and the ways in which they differ from their metropolitan or national counterparts. In Australia, there has been an awareness of a divide between regional and metropolitan news media for longer, not surprising given some of the characteristics of its population. Nevertheless, there is some discussion over the extent to which regional and metropolitan media actually differ, other than in size and scope of audience (Richards, 2012). In order to explore whether there are any noticeable differences in regional and metropolitan journalism cultures, this paper examines the results of a representative national survey conducted in 2012 and 2013. Based on the responses from 605 Australian journalists, it finds some considerable differences in the demographic composition of regional and metropolitan journalists. There are also significant differences in these journalists’ professional views, although it is also found that they are mostly in a similar direction.

Dr Folker Hanusch is a senior lecturer and program leader at the University of the Sunshine Coast.

Journalism as Research, Monday, 1445-1615

Chris Nash
Monash University
Understanding journalism as a research discipline
Many scholars of journalism treat it as an object of study within their own disciplines, eg sociology, history, political communication, literary and cultural studies, and while this contributes valuable knowledge – particularly to a reflexive understanding of its conditions of production and reception – journalism needs to constitute itself as a discipline in its own terms – to be a subject as well as an object of study – in order to exist fully within the academy as a contributor on equal terms with other humanities disciplines. This paper briefly canvasses the trajectory of journalism as a twentieth century university-based discipline, before identifying several alleged flaws that differentiate journalism from other knowledge-producing practices and which it argues should be re-conceived as potential strengths. Historically, it reviews the North American model (referencing the Chicago School, James Carey and G. Stuart Adam) that looks to history, philosophy and politics as relevant disciplines but where journalism is positioned more as a complementary craft than a distinct discipline as such. It then examines of the impact of British cultural studies and the challenges of ‘the linguistic turn’ on journalism education in the UK and Australia,
referencing the ‘media wars’ of the late 1990s. It then identifies three challenges to scholarly status for journalism which it argues should be recognised as opportunities not only for a distinctive disciplinary status but as perhaps a challenge to some aspects of the more traditional humanities disciplines. A key issue here is whether all journalism should be treated as a disciplinary research activity, and in considering this question the paper references the cognate historiographical work of Trouillot (Silencing the Past, 1995). The main body of the paper is taken up with consideration of three major criticisms of journalism that need to be reconceptualised and grasped for it to develop as a discipline:

- the status of empirical ‘facts’, and the allegation of a crude positivism
- the significance of timeliness and temporality, and the alleged displacement of a rigorous methodology by intuition and ‘news sense’
- the intrinsic presence of power relations in all journalistic knowledge production

The paper looks to the theorisation of practice by Pierre Bourdieu and Henri Lefebvre as fertile frameworks within which to address these challenges.

Professor Chris Nash is from the School of Journalism, Australian and Indigenous Studies at Monash University

**Gail Phillips**

Murdoch University

**Practice-based research in journalism: an action research model for supervisors**

Journalism scholars have over the past few years been scrutinising how journalism fits into the research and pedagogical paradigms of academia. The research assessment exercises have put added pressure on them to reconceptualise journalism as an academic discipline articulating, often for the first time, the theoretical basis of journalism practice. After transitioning from industry into academe they have also embarked on research, often practice–based, which has similarly tested the boundaries of existing paradigms. It would be useful now to consider another aspect of journalism pedagogy – that of postgraduate research supervision. Once again journalism scholars, now in the role of supervisors, are having to examine their approaches in line with the demands practice-based research (PBR) makes on both them and their students. This paper proposes that the action research paradigm may be helpful to understanding the complexities of this sort of supervision. Scholars in other practice-based fields such as creative writing, drama and architecture have been grappling for years with the question of how to define this type of research. What paradigm does practice fit in to? How can practice be described in credible methodological terms? How can results be discussed in terms of authenticity and validity? They have found the action research model of think/act/reflect very useful in this context as it provides a flexible framework that accommodates the processes of the reflexive practitioner. Their justifications hold equally well for the practice of journalism. In 2007 Zuber-Skerritt and Fletcher very usefully laid out the typology for a quality action research thesis illuminating how the practice-based thesis was actually two projects in one: the field-based work as well as the thesis-based work. This paper contends that the model can be extended to incorporate the supervision process. Here the supervisor uses the think/act/reflect cycle in collaboration with the research student to evolve a bespoke pedagogy tailored to each project. The supervisor’s academic training combined with their production expertise assist the student to maintain the dual focus on the theoretical and practical elements of the project. It is hoped that this way of conceptualizing PBR supervision may add to the evolving pedagogy for journalism at the postgraduate level.

Gail Phillips is Emeritus Associate Professor of journalism at Murdoch University

**John Cokley and Wendy Doubé**

Swinburne University of Technology

**From Scratch: Development of a new theory of journalism using engineering principles and elaboration of a new taxonomy**

Arguably the most common event of early 21st century journalism was newsroom closures but, if so, the second most-common event was newsroom openings. This paper argues that newsroom openings represent greater economic and social value to the community and thus deserve more theoretical and practical attention from research and development teams. It follows that this phenomenon represents greater potential opportunity for innovation and value creation in journalism and thus greater potential to attract external investment. At present, many new newsrooms are being launched by older journalists using traditional journalism theories. Some others are being launched by young journalists using adaptive innovative approaches. Still others are being launched by businesses managers unrelated to journalism who hire predominantly older journalists as managers and editors, effectively importing old journalism theories and practices. Each of these approaches represents a level of risk to investors’ funds which sound economics suggest should be reduced, if not eliminated. In order to reduce risk and
securely exploit the value of investment potential, and to encourage sustainability in these new enterprises, we have repurposed established principles of *requirements engineering* to propose a new theory of quality-assured sustainable journalism. From that theory we have elaborated a new taxonomy of how to conceive, design, plan and execute a journalism start-up ‘*From Scratch*’ which will deliver quality-assured journalism with acceptable returns for investors and achieve sustainability within 10 years. This new theory and taxonomy has implications for journalism education curricula.

John Cokley PhD is Associate Professor in Journalism at Swinburne University of Technology, Melbourne. He worked as a reporter and feature writer, subeditor, trainer and website developer at News Limited in Brisbane, Australia, between 1984 and 2006, after working for the Daily Sun newspaper and the Australian Associated Press wire service (1984-1985). He continues to maintain a level of professional practice in the private sector and is a member of Editors Victoria and the Journalism Education Association (Australia). He began teaching journalism at universities after graduating with a bachelor’s degree in business (communication/journalism) from the Queensland University of Technology (QUT) in 1990 as well as continuing to write for engineering, retail and indigenous magazines, books and newspapers. He was the first Journalist-in-Residence at Griffith University (2002), lectured in journalism at James Cook University, Townsville (2003-2004) and at the University of Queensland (2005-2012). He joined Swinburne in 2012.

Wendy Doubé PhD joined Swinburne in 2008. Before that, she taught Computer Programming, Information Systems, Professional Communication and Software Engineering at Monash and Western Carolina Universities. Her involvement and leadership in large multimedia projects for learning computer science lead to her research investigating the relationship between motivation and cognition in multimedia learning.

**Karen Abplanalp**
AUT

‘*Writing an investigative story with a media ban in place - rethinking Journalism Research*’

This paper considers the Journalism Research methods used to research and produce the investigative feature article, ‘*Blood Money*’, under the conditions of a media ban. Using the emerging discipline of Peace Journalism (see Galtung, 1969, 2003; Lynch and McGoldrick, 2005; Keeble, Tulloch and Zollman, 2010; and Hackett, 2011) this paper examines the impact of using Peace Journalism concepts on the research, production and outcome of the story. This paper also discusses working with sources, academics and journalists from other countries during the research and production phase of the story. The feature story, ‘*Blood Money*’, was published in Metro, the leading New Zealand glossy magazine reporting issues and society, in Dec 2011. Prior to publication of this story, the two Indonesian-ruled Melanesian provinces comprising West Papua on the island of New Guinea had remained largely ignored by New Zealand mainstream media for four decades. The story investigated the NZ Superannuation Fund (NZSF) investment in the controversial US-owned Freeport copper and gold mine at Grasberg, West Papua. The mine has been at the centre of human rights and environmental abuse allegations for most of this period. The investigation sought to establish how the NZSF laid claim to being a ‘responsible investor’ while remaining involved in the mine with a long history of being implicated in alleged human rights violations and severe environmental damage. ‘*Blood Money*’ won a rare double Australasian Student Journalism award and the Bruce Jesson Award for Emerging journalist in 2012. Six months after publication of the story the NZSF went against its non divestment tradition and divested from the mine.

Karen Abplanalp is a photojournalist-turned-investigative reporter who won an award for her exposé of New Zealand super funds being invested in the mines of Papua New Guinea. She is now completing a Masters at AUT.

**Steinar Ellingsen**
La Trobe University

**The Inland Sea: An Experiment in Online Video Journalism**

*The Inland Sea: An Experiment in Online Video Journalism* is a PhD project completed by creative work and exegesis. The creative component is a bilingual (English, Norwegian) documentary web series chronicling a ten-week road trip in Australia, called *The Inland Sea: An Australian Odyssey* (www.theinlandsea.com.au). Between November 2008 and February 2009 the researcher and three others drove 16,000 kms from Melbourne, to Adelaide, Darwin, Perth and back - almost the same distance as Melbourne to Oslo. The impetus for the project was to experience the outback for the first time and explore the notion of ‘community’ in remote, rural and suburban Australia. *The Inland Sea* is a small adventure, and an experiment in digital journalism by a credentialed reporter from a print background. The
aim of the presentation is to contextualise *The Inland Sea* and to provide a rationale for the project by referencing ongoing debates and developments in the journalism academy and in journalism practice, as well as in the rapidly growing area of online video and web series. As stated by Friedman (2012): “creative risk-taking is now a core journalistic job skill.” The disruption of the news business and journalism has forced journalists to experiment with new models, platforms and expressions. In this case, the result of the creative experiment is something that’s not necessarily journalism in the classical sense, but rather a cross-fertilisation of different ideas and practices, and a distinctive kind of (bilingual) digital documentary storytelling in the form of a web series, which itself is a rapidly evolving narrative form. The presentation will revolve around three different journeys: the physical journey through outback Australia; the professional journey of migrating from paper publishing to the web; and, finally the journey of a book pitch being repurposed into a web series. The discussion will take into account the intercultural experience, looking at discovery as an exercise in journalism; production values and devices available through digital media to enact the journalistic mission; examining the notion of ‘alternative’ communities and lifestyles in contrast to mainstream city and suburban life; and, finally, bilingualism as a device for representation of multicultural phenomena.

Steinar Ellingsen is a Journalism lecturer at La Trobe University and an executive editor of *upstart* — the magazine for emerging journalists. Steinar co-founded Melbourne WebFest, Australia’s first international web series festival, and he created the award-winning documentary web series *The Inland Sea: An Australian Odyssey*.

**International Journalism 2, Tuesday, 1300-1430**

**Jeanti St Clair**
Southern Cross University

**Cultural frictions: ethical challenges facing Australian correspondents in Indonesia**

Adherence to a set of ethics that guides reporting practices has historically, in Australia and many Western nations, been a key marker of a journalist’s claim to professionalism. However, a recent cross-cultural survey of journalism practices and ethics across 18 countries reminds us that professional modelling against an ethical yardstick is culturally defined, and enacted differently in western and non-western contexts (Hanitzsch, 2011). Using this survey as a barometer, and then drawing upon original data collected in 2005 and 2012 from Australian correspondents posted to Jakarta, this presentation explores how Australian journalists’ attitudes and professional practices are impacted by cultural differences they experience in the Indonesian media field. This case study provides the opportunity to explore foreign correspondents’ ethical practices against a changing Indonesian media industry. Political reforms from the 1990s onwards have led to Indonesian media evolving, from the Suharto era’s strict interventionist/development journalism model, to one that has adopted many western news production methods. This evolution has not however, followed the same western model of newsgathering ethics. As Australian foreign correspondents find their footing in Indonesia, this mismatch between their own and local media ethical frameworks confounds their expectations and changes work practices. This presentation argues that ethics, and the approach to reporting practices that flow from these, are part of a complex situational stance taken by Australian foreign correspondents to maintain their professional status within their home field, rather than a strict moral code.

Jeanti St Clair is an award-winning journalism lecturer at Southern Cross University in Lismore, Australia with interests in work-integrated journalism learning projects and applied journalism ethics in the foreign correspondent field. She has over 20 years’ experience in radio, print and online journalist and has worked with in the Australian media the ABC, News Limited and Fairfax.

**Lyn Barnes**
AUT

**Good grief: The traditional obituary is facing certain death in New Zealand newspapers as the focus moves more towards the survivors and their grieving**

Unlike the United States, Canada, Australia and Ireland, where there has been a resurgence in the popularity of the obituary, New Zealand is witnessing a decline in this final chronicle of one’s life. Once a standard literary skill all trainee journalists had to perfect, obituary writing is now uncommon. Instead, New Zealand journalists are expected to adapt their writing skills, often without much training or guidance, to reflect the changing role of journalism and the public perception of death. This article uses qualitative content analysis and interviews to illustrate this transition by investigating the obituary content of the country’s largest daily newspapers, *The New Zealand Herald*. 
Although newspapers remain a public forum for death, this study also identifies the shift from focusing on the past, i.e., the deceased, to the present, or those people left after the death of a loved one.

Lyn Barnes (B Ed, MEd Hons) is a senior lecturer in journalism at AUT University in Auckland where she is now doing her PhD. She was the recipient of the Dart Fellowship to the Centre for Journalism and Trauma at Columbia University, New York, in 2012. Research interests include trauma reporting, hyperlocal journalism, magazine writing and magazine history.

Jiayu Queek, Dr Janet Fulton and Mr Paul Scott
University of Newcastle
‘From both sides of the line: A case study of Singaporean and Malaysian print media during the Pedra Branca territorial dispute
Territorial disputes between nations remain an important source of conflict due to economic or strategic precursors, changing power relations, or subjective interpretations of territorial sovereignty. Such disputes are almost always covered from different perspectives in the media of countries party to the dispute(s). Through the lens of comparative journalism, studies of media coverage on South-East Asian issues and disputes have been conducted; however, not all issues have been sufficiently covered, nor unified with an examination of theme evolution over time. This paper thus focuses on and examines how the print media in Singapore and Malaysia reported on the 30-year-old dispute over the geographical features of Pedra Branca, Middle Rocks, and South Ledge, which was resolved by the International Court of Justice in 2008. As a study rooted in interpretivism and social constructionism, the existence of the Singaporean and Malaysian perspectives is acknowledged and a comparison of the two countries’ media perspectives over this dispute will reveal the prevalent themes. These themes will be related to agenda-setting and framing theory and a picture of how they shift over time will be constructed. Preliminary research has discovered that both countries focused initially on supporting their individual claims to the disputed territory, before moving on to reconciliatory media coverage as well as, in the case of Malaysia, shifting its attention to other issues on the periphery of this dispute. This paper, although specifically focused on Singapore and Malaysia, may have implications on the study of territorial dispute coverage in the media of other countries, especially within South-East Asia (or between it and other countries), because similar inferences may be drawn, subject to the influences of time, culture, media structure, international relations and other considerations.

Lyn McGaurr
University of Tasmania
Working the Web: Artists, Environment and the New York Times
This paper considers the role of artists as important travel journalism sources and asks how their celebrity and struggles for publicity can influence the way environmental conflicts are mediated internationally. Case studies of the context, production and careers of two New York Times travel features about Tasmania are compared and contrasted: a 2004 piece by Hobart author Richard Flanagan and a 2007 article by US freelance journalist Sharon Otterman. Flanagan’s article, which included a description of old-growth logging, was published the year after he, Tim Winton and Peter Carey boycotted the Pacific Region Prize over Forestry Tasmania sponsorship of the associated 10 Days on the Island festival. Otterman’s article, which ignored environmental conflict, featured a quote from ex-New York resident and Violent Femmes guitarist Brian Ritchie, who would go on to curate an annual Hobart music festival, MONA FOMA. Otterman’s article initiated some remarkable publicity for Tasmanian tourism and MONA FOMA in the years after its publication. This is explained in part by the influence of intensive government place branding and elite networks. But Flanagan’s feature also lived on, appearing below Otterman’s in the Times’ online travel section. In this manner, online publication of travel journalism amplified and extended the impact of both elite and challenger frames circulated by Tasmania’s artists at the height of its “forest wars”.

Lyn McGaurr has a PhD in Journalism, Media and Communication from the University of Tasmania, where she works as a research associate in the School of Social Sciences.

Kasun Ubayasiri and Scott Downman
Griffith University and University of Queensland
Human rights journalism and the reporting of refugee migration and human trafficking in Asia – Two case studies
The paper focuses on human rights journalism is Asia within the context of human trafficking and refugee migration in the South and Southeast Asian theatre. The theoretical architecture of the study is drawn from social justice journalism and argues the need for a social justice agenda when covering human trafficking and refugee migration.
The paper asserts that contrary to popular belief such reportage does not run counter to professional norms of journalism and can be executed within the broader theoretical architecture of journalistic objectivity. Within this context the paper defines the notion of journalistic objectivity as a domain specific concept with a commitment to uncovering a pragmatic truth. The research focuses on two case studies – the reportage of Rohingya refugee migration out of Myanmar following the eruption of sectarian violence in Myanmar’s Western Rakhine region and the reportage of Cambodians trafficked for the purposes of sexual exploitation and labour exploitation within Southeast Asia. The two case studies are employed to examine news media trends and agendas in South and Southeast Asian media landscape, and to draw wider conclusions on the nature and footing of human rights journalism in the region.

Scott Downman is a lecturer in journalism at the University of Queensland. He has worked as a journalism program convenor where he was focussed on enhancing the first year learning experience for journalism students. Prior to his current position he worked for eight years as a journalism lecturer at Griffith University. He continues to work as a journalist.

Dr Kasun Ubayasiri is a Lecturer at Griffith University.

**Journalism Education and the News Industry, Tuesday, 1300-1430**

**Stephen Tanner, Marcus O’Donnell, Kerry Green and Trevor Cullen**

**Australian journalism programs: are they listening to the needs of industry?**

In 2011 the presenters received an ALTC/OLT grant to investigate the capacity of journalism programs to provide students with the skills they require to move into the profession job-ready. The researchers conducted a number of in-depth interviews with senior media managers, including journalists, editors and editorial trainers. They also conducted in-depth interviews with journalism educators to explore the extent to which industry and the academy agree on the scope and quality of journalism education. The researchers will be presenting the findings of this in-depth research, the first such comparison of the content of Australia’s Journalism programs since the early 1990s.

**Trevor Cullen**

Edith Cowan University

**Views from news editors in Western Australia about what skills and attributes journalism graduates need in the digital newsroom**

This paper discusses some of the findings from a 2012/2013 Australian Learning Teaching Council (ALTC) sponsored project entitled: Graduate qualities and journalism curriculum renewal - balancing tertiary expectations and industry needs in a changing technological environment. One section of the project involved seeking the views of news editors in Australia about the “job readiness” of tertiary educated journalism graduates. Editors are uniquely placed as most of them employ graduates as interns, or as full-time employees when they complete their studies, and they know what knowledge, attributes and skills help students to succeed. The author conducted interviews with 12 news editors in Western Australia. Some will be surprised with their views. For example, the majority of the editors in WA want universities to provide far more than skills training: they want to see graduates well-equipped with a broad education and with competent research and analytical skills.

Dr Trevor Cullen, Associate Professor of Journalism, Edith Cowan University

**Amalie Finlayson and Isabel Fox**

Charles Sturt University

**Conceptualising media futures: Mapping communication students’ attitudinal change towards study and employment prospects over their first year at university**

Despite recent declines in media sector employment and significant job losses in journalism in particular, tertiary enrolments in communication remain strong, with both the media industry and students favouring communication degrees over more general qualifications. This study explores commencing students’ motivations and expectations for employment, through a survey of Charles Sturt University first-year journalism and public relations students. The journalism cohort perceived curiosity, people skills, writing skills, the ability to perform under pressure and the ability to meet deadlines as important attributes from both their own and the industry’s perspective. Students see a professional journalism career as challenging, rewarding and competitive, and were motivated by a desire to inform, an interest in news and current affairs and a strong interest in media work. Less than half were concerned about
future job security, with a significant majority confident they would build a long term career, and excited about the potential for new jobs in media, despite also being aware of, and concerned about, recent job losses. The PR cohort, in turn, perceived good people skills, the ability to perform well under pressure, the ability to meet deadlines and the ability to work quickly and efficiently as important. Students said a professional career in public relations would be challenging and creative. They were primarily motivated by the desire to travel for work, job security and the potential for high incomes. Overall, the data showed a social responsibility role was considerably less important to PR students than journalism students. A significant proportion of PR students showed interest both in PR roles and more traditional journalism areas such as magazine publishing, TV producing and presenting and radio presenting. In some cases, the PR cohort demonstrated a lack of knowledge about PR employment, particularly entry level and emerging roles. An overwhelming majority, however, believed they would build a long-term career, and were excited by potential new jobs in media, despite being aware of recent job losses in the industry.

Dr Amalie Finlayson is a journalism lecturer at Charles Sturt University. She has worked in both print and online, with more than a decade of experience in online news, including at The Times and The Guardian newspaper websites in London, and the Sydney Morning Herald online and Yahoo7 in Australia.

Isabel Fox is an academic in the Faculty of Arts at Charles Sturt University. She has been a journalist and PR professional for more than ten years in Australia, the UK and throughout the Pacific. She specialises and delights in teaching first year communications students.

Linda Jones and Martin Hirst
Deakin University

The newspaper crisis: measuring and understanding news readership and Internet use among journalism students in a convergence culture

In 2012, the Media Entertainment and Arts Alliance reported that well over 1000 journalists from mainstream media were made redundant, with 700 lost at Fairfax and News Ltd alone during that year. As the newspaper industry continues to decline in size, scope and value, it appears that it is not only facing an uncertain future, it is heading for self destruction. As corporate news owners search for new business models, the Internet is being blamed for the loss of newspaper readership and advertising revenues. This paper asks if shifting readership among Gen Y and Gen Z audiences is perhaps partly to blame for the mainstream media crisis. These age groups (from teens to early 30s) — the so-called ‘digital natives’— have been singled out as the biggest cohort to shift online and to reject traditional print news media. The study reported here surveyed members of this group, first year students studying media and journalism at a Melbourne university, to learn about what news they are consuming and how they are using the Internet. Through this study we seek to understand readership and Internet use amongst students, and to predict not only who the future news audience might be, but also if local journalism and the traditional local newspaper model have a future and can continue to exist alongside Internet convergence. The results of the survey found a good sample of undergraduate students, sizable enough to be representative of future news consumers and also of those who aspire to work in the media industry. The study found that many students consider the volume of news they have to deal with to be overwhelming. Surprisingly, we also found that many respondents are still reading local and community newspapers on a regular basis. As well as measuring their interest in local newspapers and how they are accessing news across various platforms, the survey enquired if students were also generating news; if this was a major trend amongst them and on which platforms. This data gives us an idea if participatory news production and circulation is perhaps another phenomenon that is changing news culture and another cause eroding the traditional role of the fourth estate.

Linda Jones is a freelance journalist and PhD student in the School of Communication & Creative Arts at Deakin University. Dr Martin Hirst is her supervisor.

Andrew Dodd, Matthew Ricketson and Bill Birnbauer
Swinburne University, University of Canberra and, Monash University

Populating the emptying newsrooms: the implications of an emerging new role for journalism schools

In 2012 an unprecedented number of journalists and media workers left the mainstream news media industry owing to large scale redundancies at Fairfax Media, News Limited and Network Ten. Earlier in the same year the Finkelstein report into the media recommended the federal government closely monitor the effects of the internet on media companies’ ability to invest resources in providing quality journalism. One impact of these two developments is a shift in the role played by journalism schools in preparing young people for work in a changing industry. A growing
number of journalism programs are engaging in projects with their students that produce journalistic work that fills some of the gaps left by the winnowed newsrooms. This paper will chart this important development in journalism education and report on interviews with mainstream and online news website editors about whether they accept student work for their publications and if they do, how – or whether - they fact check it and whether they ask students to work alongside staff journalists. This trend represents a significant development in journalism education; historically, journalism schools in Australia relied primarily on classroom-based learning or on providing opportunities for students to produce journalism through on-campus publications or in partnership with community media outlets. The authors of the paper will ask whether the emerging trend in collaborative projects should be housed primarily in final year capstone units or whether such experientially-based learning should be made central to a journalism program's curriculum. The paper will also examine the implications of this emerging trend, both for the mainstream news media and for journalism schools by examining whether there are any potential problems arising from the confluence of newsrooms needing what they see as inexpensive copy and students wanting bylines to boost their curriculum vitae and provide them with much sought after real world journalistic experience.

Andrew Dodd is the convenor of Journalism at Swinburne University. He was a reporter at The Australian and the 7.30 Report and a broadcaster at ABC Radio National, where he presented several programs and founded the Media Report. He writes on media issues for Crikey. He’s on twitter @andrewcdodd

Matthew Ricketson is the inaugural professor of journalism at the University of Canberra. He was Media and Communications editor for The Age before that, from mid-2006 to early 2009. He ran the Journalism program at RMIT for 11 years and has worked on staff at The Australian, Time Australia magazine and The Sunday Herald, among other publications.

Bill Birnbauer is a Senior Lecturer in journalism at Monash University. He is undertaking a PhD on the development of nonprofit investigative journalism in the United States. Before joining Monash in 2009, he was a senior reporter and editor with Fairfax Media.

Online journalism, Tuesday, 1300-1430

Fiona Martin
University of Sydney

The politics of participation: online journalism and the nature of commenting work

In the 2000s participation and engagement are potent strategic objectives for digital news media. Yet certain forms of participatory journalism, such as user comments and interaction, have proved disruptive, requiring new policies, practices, processes, tools and types of labour in the newsroom. Some editors and journalists celebrate the growth of comments, discussion and open journalism models, while others remain ambivalent about the value of facilitating and moderating user contributions. At the same time industry reports and policy inquiries have associated user-generated content with greater media diversity and plurality, extended democratic activity, improved accountability and some measure of innovation. In those senses the cultivation of comments seems to be both good news business and good politics for a profession in crisis. However as Nico Carpentier cautions, it is important for participative media analyses to avoid democratic-populist fantasy. Little is known about the nature of the work involved in inviting, managing and moderating comments in news and opinion, or the structuring of power relations in dialogic eco-systems. The actors, instruments and practices of participatory journalism have largely been explored in print media, rather than cross-platform contexts. Research is also needed into the significant role of software design and development in shaping interactions between users, journalists, moderators and other users. This paper proposes a critical internet studies approach to studying commenting systems and understanding the tensions emerging around this new area of digital media work. It first surveys the emerging literature on participation, participatory journalism and commenting work, with attention to its intersections with software studies. Second, using interviews and policy analytics, it outlines the actors involved and power relations invested in commenting work in cross-platform news ecosystems. Finally it suggests a model for investigating the dynamics of inclusion and exclusion in participatory news systems, and the impact of commenting work on user contributions.

Dr Fiona Martin is Senior lecturer in Convergent and Online Media at the University of Sydney and a former ABC radio broadcaster and print journalist. She is conducting an ARC DECRA funded international study into best practice approaches to governing and regulating news commenting systems. She is also a co-investigator, with Prof. Gerard Goggin and Dr Tim Dwyer, on the Discovery project Moving Media, researching mobile internet development, use and policy.
Mary Garden
University of the Sunshine Coast
Do you want a bit of Twitter with that? The changing landscape of blogging on mainstream news sites
In recent years, Twitter has become an increasingly important journalistic tool. While Facebook is a more popular social media platform, Twitter is emerging as more influential and useful for journalists in terms of engaging with readers, sharing information and disseminating breaking news. Some scholars and media commentators have even claimed the death of the blog – overtaken by Twitter, a simpler and faster medium, with its short form allowing for easy and less time-consuming communication than the often-lengthy blog posts. My doctoral study looked at the value of political blogs on Australia’s mainstream news sites and the extent to which they may be a deliberative or political information space. A question that emerged was the future of blogs in light of the increasing use of Twitter as well as the closing of several leading independent blogs in mid-2012. And so in interviews with journalist-bloggers I sought their views on Twitter and the future of blogs, and obtained some quantitative data on their use of Twitter. At the same time I mapped changes in the mainstream media blogosphere between December 2011 and June 2012 in order to determine if indeed blogs were in decline. While most Australian journalists are now on Twitter and no doubt some political conversation has migrated to social media platforms, it is evident that blogs on mainstream media sites still have a role. Indeed, four new political blogs began in early 2012 – two on The Australian and the other two on Fairfax’s National Times. With the exception of Andrew Bolt, Tim Blair and Piers Akerman, at the time of writing the ten other journalist-bloggers identified for the purposes of this study are on Twitter. They have divergent views as to its value, with one claiming it is overloaded with the abusive and inane and another saying overall it is a ‘wonderful thing’. Most of them prefer to converse with readers on their blogs although they do use Twitter to publicise or amplify blogs posts. This means that rather than sounding a death knell Twitter is helping to integrate their blogs into societal news streams.

Mary Garden is completing a PhD in Journalism at the University of the Sunshine Coast. Her thesis is titled: ‘Blogging in the mainstream – Australian journalist-blogs and public deliberation’. A former primary and secondary school teacher, Mary is the author of a memoir The Serpent Rising: a journey of spiritual seduction (based on her years in India in the 1970s) and she has had many feature articles published in magazines, newspapers and online sites in Australia and overseas.

Julie Tullberg
Monash University
Twitter abuse of AFL footballers
Twitterverse, the cyber space for users of social media network Twitter, is loaded with defamatory innuendo about AFL celebrity footballers and provides a toxic catchment for controversial stories. The media has produced a significant number of cases where “tweets” and multimedia assets have generated front-page news stories and explosive leads. In some cases, AFL players have published tweets, either reacting angrily to provocative and abusive posts, or ranting about the game’s problems, often leading to disciplinary action. Twitter’s disturbing flaw centres on the “fan” interacting freely with celebrity footballers in cyber space, but this open environment creates an unwelcome target for abusive tweets. Hutchins (2011) describes the phenomenon as telepresence or “keeping in touch without literally being in touch”, which he interprets as a pervasive feature of Twitter. Will the risks of telepresence, where the “fan” exercises power to provoke the footballer or post defamatory multimedia, be reduced through effective intervention strategies? This study presents a series of case studies that demonstrate the destructive nature of telepresence and the abusive power of the “fan”, which generates frenzied reaction on all digital platforms and ultimately, a fascinating and well-placed print story. The case studies highlight high-powered investigative journalism and commentary, including death threats against Adelaide defector Kurt Tippett, Essendon player Sam Lonergan and two AFL officials, the St Kilda schoolgirl’s skilful manipulation of the media and Ben Cousins’ reported death on social media platforms. The controversial posts demonstrate that power is removed from the celebrity footballer, exposing him to vicious attacks that potentially defame, intimidate or force legal action.

Julie Tullberg coordinates the online journalism and sports reporting programs at Monash University. She is pursuing her PhD in sports digital media. Julie was formerly the Herald Sun’s Homepage Editor, Night Digital Editor and Sports Digital Editor (Nights). She enjoyed a 20-year career at News Limited from 1993 to 2013.
Merryn Sherwood
La Trobe University

The Mixed Zone: The role of Australian Sports Communication Practitioners in the Production of Sports News

With the emergence of the 24/7 news cycle in the 21st century, there is evidence to suggest public relations practitioners have more influence on the production of news. In 2009 journalist Jonathan Green told the audience at the RMIT Communicator of the Year awards that PR had already won the battle, stating „it’s not often that we read pieces in the paper that appear simply because of the intrinsic merit or interest of the subject matter, most are fed, fed or teed up.” (Green, 2009). This was followed by a 2010 report that found in a week’s worth of Australian major newspapers, nearly 55% of stories were primarily derived from a PR source (Crikey, 2010). The sheer amount of PR practitioners in Australia is also testament to their influence. At the start of 2012 there were 23,000 journalists and 21,500 PR practitioners in Australia, with PR expected to take the lead by the end of that year (Jackson, 2012). The impact of public relations or media relations is particularly evident in sports journalism, which is one of the largest specialty areas in Australian journalism (Henningham, 1995; Nicholson, Zion, & Lowden, 2011). In 2012, then Fairfax columnist Richard Hinds penned a column criticising the lack of access to clubs within the National Rugby League (Hinds, 2012). Writing on the NRL’s new mixed zone policy, where eight players must be made available to the media at training he stated that some clubs used it well but, “At the same time, the policy is also being exploited by those clubs that need little excuse to hide their stars from more in-depth questioning,” (Hinds, 2012, para 12). Hinds’ message was that he was being restricted from telling the stories he wanted to tell. In July 2013 a robust Twitter debate unfolded between Basketball Australia chief executive Kristina Keannally and Canberra Times journalists who criticised the lack of media access at an Australian men’s team camp (Gaskin, 2013). These cases are significant because sports journalism has long been labeled the ‘toy department,’ of the newsroom (Hardin, 2005; Rowe, 2007) largely because of the closeness of its journalists to sources. This new restricted access represents a potentially significant shift in sports journalism. This study is the first of its kind that seeks to understand how the introduction of public relations staff within Australian sports organizations has potentially changed the production of sports news, through researching those who work in sports public relations roles. This paper presents themes identified from a series of in-depth semistructured interviews with public relations staff from a range of Australian sports organisations, and the potential implications for sports journalism and the production of sports news in Australia. Merryn Sherwood is a PhD student at La Trobe University.

Peter English
University of the Sunshine Coast

State of play: sports journalism in the journalistic field in Australia, the United Kingdom and India

Sports journalism is a significant aspect of contemporary journalism that does not possess high levels of capital when compared with more pure forms of “serious” journalism. However, while sport does not carry the power and prestige, in relation either to content or its journalists, it has designated daily space across media platforms and provides a vital element in the balance of coverage. It is therefore important to situate the sports journalism field within the journalistic field. Employing Bourdieu’s (1996; 1998) research, and following an analysis of the economic and cultural capital of a variety of specialty areas, it is argued sports journalism sits predominantly on the economic capital side of the field. Further, it is relevant to map the broadsheet/quality newspaper sector of the sports journalism field. This is achieved through an analysis of the sports desks at two publications in Australia, the United Kingdom and India. The titles were: The Sydney Morning Herald; The Australian; the Guardian; The Daily Telegraph; The Hindu; and The Times of India. Results were obtained through 36 in-depth interviews – involving six journalists at each company who represented a different position to enable comparisons – and a 12-day constructed-week content analysis, totalling 4541 print and web articles. Combining this data allowed for a comprehensive analysis of the sports journalism field in regards to broadsheet/quality titles, by examining levels of economic and journalistic capital. Particular areas of interest utilised to situate the organisations through journalistic capital included: publishing techniques; use of technology; content; and workloads. Economically, it was evident that the field’s landscape was changing through commercial influences and financial shifts towards the market pole, especially in the Western nations. Peter English is a PhD candidate at the University of the Sunshine Coast. As a sports journalist, he has worked for print, web and magazine publications in Australia and the United Kingdom.
**Framing in journalism, Tuesday, 1445-1615**

Kristy Hess and Lisa Waller  
Deakin University

**Out of step? Newspaper coverage of the Jill Meagher march**

30,000 people turned out on Sunday September 30, 2012, to march along Sydney Road, Melbourne, in honour of murdered ABC worker Jill Meagher. She had been abducted while walking home along the same street eight days earlier. The story captured the public imagination and saturated media coverage across Australia and the globe. In this paper we report our qualitative analysis of four newspapers’ online coverage of the Jill Meagher case. We take an inductive approach to exploring the data. One of our findings revealed that surprisingly, newspapers were almost mute on the march for peace in the days before it unfolded, leaving it to social media sites and other commercial competitors to cover. This case focuses our attention on fundamental questions, such as ‘what is news in the digital landscape?’, the relationship between newspapers and social media and their place in digital information flows and networks. It calls for a broader discussion on the traditional norms and conventions guiding journalism practices and how they might be challenged in the digital age.

Kristy Hess and Lisa Waller lecture in Journalism at Deakin University. Their research interest is in the power of the news media to shape social spaces.

Katrina Clifford  
University of Tasmania

**‘News frames of police accountability and the strategic ritual of emotionality’**

Debates about journalistic objectivity have often cast the concept in bounded and oppositional terms to bias and impartiality, with little regard for the role of emotionality as an equally embedded aspect of journalistic practice and a potential survival mechanism for traditional news media. An exception is Wahl-Jorgensen’s concept of the ‘strategic ritual of emotionality’, which claims that the construction of news is systematically infused with emotion as a consequence of journalistic judgments; specifically, the selective use of sources whose emotions journalists can authoritatively describe without implicating themselves (although, in reality, this is rarely the case). What the ‘strategic ritual of emotionality’ realises is the potential for the concepts of journalistic objectivity and emotionality to operate alongside one another – rather than as binary opposites – in the construction of news, albeit often in tension with one another. This paper examines this dynamic and its implications in the context of another inherently fraught relationship – that of policing and news media. The paper identifies the complexities of police-media relations and the commodification of emotions in the mediation and politicisation of critical incidents involving the police use of deadly force (e.g. police-involved shootings and Taser deaths). Traditional news media have increasingly pursued these news stories within the context of police accountability and the ideals of ‘fourth estate’ journalism. However, their constructions of news and journalistic judgments have often masqueraded as serious investigative journalism; adopting news framing devices more familiar to softer forms of journalism. This includes the appeal of the violent, sensationalist, and highly personalised over in-depth and sustained journalistic analysis. The paper questions what implications this ‘affective turn’ in (crime) news reporting, and its tensions with the traditional ideals of journalistic objectivity, may have on conceptions of media ethics and socially responsible journalistic practice. It also offers some critical observations about the contributions – and possible interventions – that analyses of this kind (and journalism researchers) can make to other disciplines, such as critical criminology, which have often overlooked the nuances of emotion and the processes of news construction in the context of mediated representations of crime and law enforcement.

Dr Katrina Clifford is a lecturer in Journalism, Media and Communications at the University of Tasmania. She worked as a journalist and magazine editor for over ten years, and later as a freelance consultant and corporate writer. She is a member of the Mindframe for Universities Advisory Group (Journalism Education) and a research associate with the Tasmanian Institute of Law Enforcement Studies (TILES).

Michael Meadows  
Griffith University

**Writing the country: the role of journalists and journalism in the Queensland national parks movement**

From its emergence, ideas of landscape in Australia have been associated closely with the notion of leisure. The foundations for the idea of Australian leisure were laid by the second half of the 19th century. This is evident in the emergence of activities like bushwalking, rockclimbing, and cycling. At the turn of the 19th century, tourism emerged
as a key cultural activity in Australia with mountainous terrain a key destination. By the later decades of the 19th century, the idea of national parks had spread across much of the English-speaking world. The world’s first national parks were established at Yellowstone in 1872, and at Port Hacking, south of Sydney, in 1878, and by the 1880s and 1890s, there were calls throughout the Australian colonies for the creation of similar reserves in areas considered to have a particular aesthetic significance. Between 1919 and 1940, the national parks’ cause in Queensland received a significant level of coverage in the Brisbane and regional southeast Queensland press. Apart from a handful of exceptions, the various reports and articles that appeared in the newspapers were remarkably sympathetic, and throughout this interwar period, all major Brisbane newspapers were at various times prominent advocates for the establishment of national parks. Whether this coverage actually influenced government policy on national parks is, of course, difficult to say. However, it is fair to assume that at the very least, the press helped to shape public opinion on national parks and promoted a climate favorable to their creation and expansion. This paper will explore why was there such strong support for the national parks’ movement at this time and what role journalists and local newspapers played in this process. It will draw parallels with current media debates around climate change and explore the implications for journalism practices, particularly in reporting environmental issues.

Michael Meadows, Centre for Cultural Research, Griffith University

Jill Singer
RMIT University

Priests, Child Sex Abuse and Shades of Grey
The media adopted the term “paedophile priest” during the 1990s in response to revelations of Clerical Child Sex Abuse (CCSA) within the Catholic Church in Ireland. The label appears to have first been applied in relation to the notorious Father Brendan Smyth, with numerous publications employing it, including the Guardian, The Times and The Independent. Apart from its obvious alliterative appeal, the term “paedophile priest”, when applied to Smyth, was accurate. He was both a priest and a convicted sex offender who abused dozens of children, some just 6 years old. Researchers have since expressed concern at the term “paedophile” being used as an umbrella label for those attracted to children under the legal age of consent. It is argued that the age and appearance of the desired child is relevant and that “true” paedophiles should be identified by their attraction to biological children, that is, those who are obviously pre-pubescent. Leading researcher Dr James Cantor points to the worldwide discussion of child molestation by Catholic priests and notes that many of the victims were “pubescent rather than prepubescent children.” According to Cantor, such priests should more correctly be labeled as hebephilic (hebephilia being the sexual preference for pubescent children, usually aged from 11 – 14 years old). While Cantor is encouraged that the media has begun distinguishing between pedophilia and hebophilia when reporting on child molestation perpetrated by Catholic priests, any cursory look at the Australian media’s coverage of the Royal Commission into Institutional Abuse of Children suggests the term “paedophile priest” has become commonplace. This analysis explores the media’s reporting of evidence given to the Australian royal commission with the specific aim of determining the accuracy or otherwise of the term “paedophile” being applied to priests accused of child molestation.

Jill Singer is a lecturer (television journalism) at RMIT University, author and Walkley Award winning journalist. She is currently researching media coverage of child sex abuse issues associated with the arts, advertising, religion, internet, family and the law.

Jan Harkin
Monash University

Baby boomers behind the wheel
This paper considers the depiction of older drivers in the Australian media. The issue has considerable importance for policy makers, the ageing population, their families and support networks. By 2030 almost a quarter of drivers in Australia are expected to be aged 65 and over, a trend that applies to most western countries as a result of the high birth rates in the 1940s and 1950s and increased longevity from improved health. The seriousness of the issue is apparent from the considerable body of research and journal articles generated, particularly in the area of gerontology, on related issues, including self-regulating behaviour, driving cessation, hazard perception and medical assessment of driver impairment. As baby boomers age the balance between individual freedom and the safety of all road users will shift but researchers warn of the importance of avoiding unnecessary or excessive curtailment of older drivers, to limit noted flow-on effects to physical and mental health from reduced social connectedness. This paper explores the media’s role in portraying the increasing number of older Australians driving. Its two main aims are to determine how issues related to older drivers are framed and to analyse whether the coverage discriminates
against this demographic. The entry point for the discussion is a qualitative analysis of depictions of older drivers in capital city daily newspapers in Australia for the five-year period from 2008-2013, which found headlines, for example, ranging from “Seniors keen to motor on” to “Get them off the road”. The content is tested for key values, including the range of stories, accuracy of information, sources referenced and/or quoted, and whether road safety is presented as a personal, community or organisational responsibility. Examination of the data against such values enables analysis of whose views are represented and whether or not the coverage reflects the findings of academic research on older drivers. The analysis is the first stage of a journalism-based doctoral study on the implications for road safety and social connectedness of the ageing of the baby boomer cohort of drivers.

Janet Harkin is a PhD candidate in journalism at Monash University and has tutored in journalism at Deakin University since 2009. She was a journalist at Leader Newspapers from 2000 to 2007, filled in as acting editor on several mastheads in 2006 and 2007, and is volunteer editor of Treadles.

Media and Politics, Tuesday, 1445-1615

Brian McNair, Stephen Harrington, Terry Flew
QUT

Journalism and democracy in Australia: public and producer perceptions of the political public sphere.
The central role of the journalistic media in the construction of an informed citizenry and deliberative democracy is widely accepted in the political science and media studies literature. But, even as the media in Australia (and comparable democracies) have expanded dramatically in recent times with the growth of digital and online platforms, and enhanced opportunities for public participation, concerns about the functionality of the politics-media relationship have risen on the public agenda. Since the 2010 federal election until now, Australia has seen regular debate and commentary not just on policy matters, but on the presentation of these by politicians, their coverage by media organisations, and the impact of both on democratic engagement. Although Australia has a compulsory voting system which, to a degree, masks public dissatisfaction and disengagement, there is a widespread view that citizens are cynical and disillusioned with the political process, in large part because of the way in which it is covered in news, current affairs and other media formats. Former ALP cabinet minister Lindsay Tanner’s much-publicised 2011 book, Sideshow, for example, argues that Australian media coverage of politics undermines effective democratic governance. Former Liberal Party leader Malcolm Fraser, quoted on the book’s cover, asserts that “the relationship between politicians and the media degrades public life and diminishes our future”. And nor can such views be dismissed as the predictable complaints of political elites confronted with unwelcome media scrutiny. Media and political science scholarship – in Australia and internationally - has been highly critical of the media-politics interaction since at least the 1990s. Inside and out of the academy, there is a perceived crisis of confidence and trust in the public sphere and political process, and corresponding concern for the quality of governance as democratic societies face increasingly complex policy challenges. There is, however, very little evidence of how Australian publics perceive and evaluate the political media. This paper reports on a major ARC-funded study which aims to fill that gap with systematic research on both producer and public perceptions of the performance of the political media. Although the project includes non-journalistic media formats within its design, this paper will focus on news and current affairs, and include analysis of media performance in the forthcoming general election.

Caroline Fisher
University of Canberra
‘Watchdog’ versus ‘spin-doctor’/ ‘informer’ versus ‘advocate’: the inadequacy of oppositional portrayals of journalists and parliamentary media advisers
In journalism, public relations and political communications scholarship journalism and parliamentary media advising have been defined in opposition to each other. This is most notably observed in the ubiquitous stereotypes of the journalist as democratic ‘watchdog’ and the parliamentary media adviser as Machiavellian ‘spin doctor’. Both of these stereotypes carry ethical assumptions about each of the two roles. On the one hand is the journalist whose professional identity is tied to its role in democracy serving the ideals of truth, fairness, scrutiny and informing in the public interest. On the other hand is the ‘spin doctor’ whose use of morally dubious tactics of lying, manipulation, control, persuasion and advocacy in the interest of a client are seen to be undermining democracy. Based on the reflections of twenty-one reporters who have worked as both journalists and parliamentary media advisers this paper argues that these oversimplified antithetical stereotypes do not adequately reflect the more complex reality of either role. This paper is part of broader doctoral research which draws on the traditions of phenomenology to examine the under-explored phenomenon of journalists who make the transition from reporter to parliamentary
media adviser and back again. Using grounded theory strategies this qualitative research project examines a range of issues related to the career transition including power relations between the two roles and conceptions of ethical conflict. Instead of the black and white oppositional portrayal of the two roles the study found the interviewees perceived many similarities between journalism and parliamentary media advising, including shared skills and goals. Based on their individual lived experience of the two roles some of the study participants perceived the goals of ‘informing’ and ‘advocacy’ to be shared by both journalism and media advising and not confined to either role. In response to these findings, this paper argues it is time to address the inadequacy of such oversimplified oppositional stereotypes and adopt a more nuanced understanding of the two roles based on the varied perceptions of individual practitioners’ experience.

Caroline Fisher is a PhD candidate at the University of Canberra where she teaches in the journalism programme. Caroline spent twelve years reporting and producing for ABC News and Radio National. Caroline also spent three years working for Anna Bligh as her Senior Media Adviser in the Beattie Government.

Caryn Coatney
University of Southern Queensland

Extending news interviews: how John Curtin transformed

As a former journalist, Australian Prime Minister John Curtin developed relatively new media techniques to persuade reporters to support his war leadership and articulate his rhetoric of crisis, masking the tensions within his governance. Yet there are gaps in the historical understanding of his news management techniques in World War II and their influence on prime ministerial-media relations and political journalism of the era. This paper contributes to a deeper understanding of the relationships of influence and consensus between Curtin and the news media, based on concepts of the governmental function of news in an administered society, developed by Ericson, Baranek and Chan, as well as Foucault’s model of power. With the use of rarely researched confidential communications providing fresh insights into Curtin’s news relations, this paper argues that press and broadcast journalists cooperated with him to visualise national deviance, in the form of Axis foes, and accentuate his language of the enemy to elicit public support for his governance. Through a dramaturgy approach, this study shows that Curtin stage-managed and expanded the prime minister’s news interviews to appear as spontaneous, open-ended and inclusive; however, he relied on theatrical gesturing, camera techniques and rehearsed rhetoric to generate favourable news coverage about his leadership of Australia’s military role in the Pacific war from 1941 until his death in 1945. Although he benefited from censorship, he used his professional journalism background and the nation’s first full-time prime ministerial press secretary to share information leaks selectively with journalists. The political correspondents volunteered to withhold information and cooperated to portray him as a forceful, egalitarian leader, disguising the friction among the Allies. This study of Curtin’s news management techniques and interactions with reporters indicates the democratic possibilities for journalism students of using expanded communication spaces for more critical inquiry to generate greater political responsiveness and accountability to public audiences.

Dr Caryn Coatney is a Journalism Lecturer at the University of Southern Queensland, Springfield. She is an award-winning academic researcher and journalist, publishing extensively in leading scholarly journals and books. Caryn has a PhD (Journalism and History), MA – Research (Journalism) and BA with Double Honours (Literature and History).

Jane Fynes-Clinton
University of the Sunshine Coast

The Game – journalists’ interactions with and views of political media advisers

The relationship between political journalists and political media advisers in common-law democracies is symbiotic but traditionally uneasy. The journalistic products of the relationship are far-reaching, having been found to affect public perceptions of politicians, voting intentions, and public views of society and social issues more broadly. Through semi-structured, in-depth interviews with political journalists in Queensland and Canberra, individuals revealed their perspectives on the multi-faceted relationship, their perceptions of the practises of media advisers, offered insights into their own ethics, professional roles, perceptions of power and understanding of responsibilities, and the part trust plays in the work they do. The study results have practical implications for understanding of the practices and frameworks of political journalists in a time of enormous media industry change. Theoretical applications include contributing to the field of gatekeeping, fourth estate and agenda-setting theories.

Jane Fynes-Clinton is a journalism lecturer at the University of the Sunshine Coast and a PhD candidate at The University of Queensland in Australia. She has been a journalist for more than 25 years and a university lecturer for 10. Jane’s PhD thesis explores the relationship between political journalists and media advisers.
Stephen Stockwell  
Griffith University  
**Journalism and Democracy**  
There is a growing movement among journalism academics to distance the discipline from the democratic ideals that are often assumed to be central to the profession (Zelizer 2012). This rethinking of journalism’s purpose is at the centre of a perfect storm: industrial and economic issues are cutting traditional positions; citizen journalism is growing but often seems to have only vague connections to traditional practice; and while democracies have multiplied there is a growing suspicion of its practice in its western heartlands. This paper builds on some recent work on the history of democracy to broaden that concept and focus on the golden thread of deliberation that runs through all valid democracies and argues that the application of journalistic craft, inside or outside a professional structure, is central to determining the quality of that deliberation, and by extension, the quality of particular democracies.


**International Journalism 3, Wednesday 1245-1415**

Caryn Coatney  
University of Southern Queensland  
**Influencing international news: Robert G. Menzies and wartime journalists, 1939-1966**  
Between World War II and the growing Vietnam conflict, Robert Gordon Menzies expanded the use of relatively new media to persuade more Australian journalists and public audiences to support his leadership during Asia-Pacific crises. This paper aims to help fill research gaps on Australia’s longest serving prime minister by investigating Menzies’ televised interviews, filmed talks and newsreel offcuts based on the concepts of the public sphere and democratic governance. Through a multi-media approach including a rare examination of secret diaries, letters and war cables, this paper conducts two case studies to assess Menzies’ development of news management techniques. First, this paper identifies his news media achievements and failures during his four-month international trip in 1941. Secondly, an analysis is made of his use of the news media, particularly televised journalism, to secure more public support during his alliance with United States President John F. Kennedy from 1961 to 1963. Following from this conceptual framework, the paper shows Menzies’ ability to master media technology, involve more broadcast journalists in two-way discussions and expand his direct talks with public audiences. His news management techniques contributed towards the growth of more contemporary media relations between political leaders and journalists in Australia. A study of these techniques is instructive for journalism students to understand the influence of the Menzies style of dominating, persuasive political tactics and to delve beyond official communications when reporting on international crises.

Dr Caryn Coatney is a Journalism Lecturer at the University of Southern Queensland, Springfield. She is an award-winning academic researcher and journalist, publishing extensively in leading scholarly journals and books. Caryn has a PhD (Journalism and History), MA – Research (Journalism) and BA with Double Honours (Literature and History).

Martin Hirst  
Deakin University  
**Is sectarian violence still terrorism in the eyes of the Western news media? How relevant is the ‘terror frame’ for discussing media coverage of Iraq in 2012?**  
Since George Bush senior’s first Iraq incursion in 1991, many conflict events involving Western forces and ‘Islamist’ groups have been framed using the ideological construction of ‘terrorism’ as an ever-present ‘threat’ that must be dealt with through military action. The terror ‘threat’ is often characterised as an almost disembodied entity ‘terrorism’, a seemingly irrational and unpredictable, if not ‘insane’, ideology that is beyond explanation and control. This paper updates the author’s previous work in this area and looks closely at the period around the March 2013 10th ‘anniversary’ of the 2003 invasion of Iraq as an occasion on which to reassess the viability of the terror frame as a critical lens for examining media coverage of Iraq today. One finding of the is that in 2012-2013 coverage of Iraq in the mainstream Western media was only around 20 per cent of what it was in 2003. The diminished range of coverage, since mid-2007, means that today Iraq is rarely on the front page or at the head of the broadcast bulletin.
However, when it does make the paper, bulletin or website, news from Iraq still appears to be predominantly framed within a discourse about ‘terrorism’, but with one key difference: the targets of terrorist attacks in Iraq in 2013 are not coalition forces or Westerners. In the majority of domestic ‘terrorism’ cases from 2012 and 2013, the victims are Iraqis and the motivation for the killing is sectarian and political. For example, in the period of campaigning for the May 2013 Iraqi elections, voters and candidates were the intended targets. Unfortunately, a further consequence of this framing device is that Western news consumers no very little about the internal situation in Iraq today and even less about the politics of domestic Iraqi-on-Iraqi terrorism. This may have serious consequences for both public debate and policy decisions in Western nations, in relation to Iraq.

Dr Martin Hirst is Associate Professor in Journalism and Multimedia at Deakin University. He is a member of the Centre for Citizenship & Globalisation. His most recent book, Journalism Ethics: Arguments and Cases for the 21st Century, co-authored with Roger Patching, was published by Routledge in 2013.

Levi Obijiofor
University of Queensland

Defending national interest: Nigerian and South African press coverage of a diplomatic incident

The history of diplomatic relations between Nigeria and South Africa (post-apartheid) has never been easy. In early March 2012, the unsteady relationship was tested further when South Africa’s immigration officials deported 125 Nigerian passengers who had arrived in Johannesburg. The official reason for deporting the passengers was that they did not possess valid yellow fever vaccination cards. Angered by that decision, the Nigerian government retaliated by deporting 28 South Africans in the first of a series of deportations of South African citizens who arrived in Nigeria at the time. The essence of the prompt reprisal, it seemed, was to convey the message to South Africa that it did not have an exclusive right over the way it treated the citizens of another African country. This paper draws on the theoretical frameworks of media framing and conflict reporting to examine the way Nigerian and South African press framed the diplomatic incident, in particular how the press reported the international conflict in terms of tone of language, sources quoted, defence of national interest, patriotism, African-ness, and the exchange of mutual antagonism between the nations. The paper also examines the key concepts that dominated press reports over the incident.

Dr Levi Obijiofor is Senior Lecturer in Journalism, School of Journalism and Communication, University of Queensland

Michelle Rourke
University of Queensland

Men write about tanks, women write about refugees: A pilot study on whether men and women report differently from the frontline

There is little doubt that the gap is closing, but gender disparities remain a significant issue in journalism. There are still areas that are yet to achieve an appropriate balance, such as the male-dominated field of war reporting. The dominant narrative regarding gender in war reporting, espoused by men and women alike, is that male correspondents tend to focus on military technology and battle tactics while their female counterparts choose to focus on the humanitarian aspects of war. While this has become a popular mantra, there is little evidence in the literature to suggest that gender has an influence on the concepts that correspondents choose to focus on. A pilot study was conducted using the data mining software, Leximancer, aimed at determining whether men and women covered different concepts and themes in reports from the ongoing War in Afghanistan. Twenty articles with a focus on the war itself, as opposed to the related politics or recovery efforts, were collected from Western online media outlets. Ten articles were written by men and ten from women. If a story was co-authored, it was excluded unless both authors were of the same gender. Leximancer extracts recurrent themes and concepts from the documents and uses a clustering algorithm to present this information visually as a concept map. The map displays overarching themes as bubbles and the associated concepts as a web of interconnected nodes within those bubbles. The map generated using the twenty input articles (see attached) shows that all themes and most of the concepts were associated with both the male and female articles. There were, however, slight differences in the frequency with which these concepts were covered. For example, articles written by men had a higher incidence of what could be considered violent terms, such as ‘explosion’, ‘suicide’ and ‘combat’. The articles written by women had a slightly stronger association with socio-cultural terms such as ‘Pakistani’, ‘Americans’, ‘young’ and ‘enemy’. These associations were weak overall and could be an artefact of limited sample size. A key finding in the dataset was that women were more likely to use sentiment-laden terms. Positive words such as ‘best’, ‘celebrated’, ‘praise’, ‘popular’ and ‘succeed’ were likely to be associated with female’s reports at a relative frequency of 77%, but only 23% with
male's reports. Negative words like 'bad', 'broken', 'disappointed' and 'worse' were associated with female reports at a level of 88%, but only 12% for males. This indicates that there are nuances in the emphasis that males and females place on certain concepts, and the language with which they use to present those concepts. This pilot study does have limitations. The sample size was small and the articles were not matched for word count which may have skewed the relative importance of some concepts. However, this study represents a 'proof of concept' for the application of this software in the field of gender research in journalism. More robust analyses would require larger and thoroughly data-matched samples.

Danielle Vida
La Trobe University

‘Journalism of the deed’: Anna Politkovskaya, Transnational Human Rights Networks, and the Struggle against Authoritarianism

This paper is about the significance of the Russian investigative journalist Anna Politkovskaya in bringing international attention to the carnage in Chechnya and Russia’s slide into authoritarianism under the Putin regime. Politkovskaya paid for her crusade against human rights abuses with her own life. On 7 October 2006 she was murdered in a contract style assassination in the elevator of her Moscow apartment building. As state repression and the stifling of journalistic freedom worsened under the rule of Vladimir Putin, it became a necessity for the human rights community to utilize alternative channels of influence beyond Russia’s borders. This involved raising global public awareness and placing Russia’s human rights record on the international agenda. This paper seeks to demonstrate how it was only through Politkovskaya’s role at the centre of a transnational network of activists, NGOs and journalists that she was able to bring pressure to bear on the Putin regime. Interviews conducted in Russia and Europe with Anna Politkovskaya’s key contacts cast fresh light on her role within a transnational human rights network. A pivotal yet understudied aspect of transnational network politics is the role of the media within such structures. Politkovskaya’s role as a activist-journalist is used to elucidate the complex and symbiotic relationships that exists between journalists and human rights defenders, particularly within transnational activist networks. This paper explains how Politkovskaya’s journalism was the manifestation of a unique combination of Russian and Western models of advocacy reporting. Her journalism embodied both the Russian humanist notion of ‘Journalism of the Deed’ and the Western agenda-setting ‘Journalism of Attachment’ as coined by the BBC war correspondent Martin Bell.

Danielle Vida is a PhD candidate in the International Relations and Politics Department at La Trobe University. She is writing a biography of the Russian investigative journalist Anna Politkovskaya and recently returned from Moscow where she was conducting interviews. She also has a background in education and is a History teacher.

Journalism Education and Research, Wednesday, 1245-1415

Chris Nash
Monash University

What is an exegesis? Locating journalism as a research practice

The acceptance of practice–based research practices as legitimate methodologies for doctoral research has proven both a boon and a challenge for disciplines in the fine and applied arts, and for professionally-based activities such education, health and journalism. This paper considers the case of journalism in detail, and argues firstly that journalism’s specific characteristics as a knowledge-producing practice endow it with certain exegetical advantages; and secondly, that understanding and developing the role of the exegesis in doctoral research in journalism is a productive way of locating journalism within the broader field of humanities disciplines. Theoretically, the paper references the theorisation of practice by Bourdieu and Lefebvre, and the work on spatio-temporality by Gell, Tuchman and Harvey.

The paper addresses in detail the exegetical elements of literature review and methodology as a way of exploring the disciplinary issues:

Literature review: the paper argues that journalism, in parallel with history and geography, is an intrinsically interdisciplinary practice. The juxtaposing of the scholarly literature in the apposite discipline with the journalistic literature on the same topic allows for the rigorous and mutually reflexive comparison and evaluation of the relative contributions of the respective disciplines in addressing a given research question.

Methodology: the paper argues that journalism as a research practice addresses many of the same issues in qualitative research as history and anthropology, and likewise is distinguished by
reference to temporality (present vs past) and power relations which has methodological implications for each.

The paper concludes with the outline of a modular template for the content and structure of an exegesis in journalism doctoral theses as a tool for discussion of the disciplinary issues.

Professor Chris Nash is from the School of Journalism, Australian and Indigenous Studies at Monash University

Kayt Davies
Edith Cowan University

Can outsourced online tutorial programs solve numeracy training problems in journalism education? - Results of a trial

Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) is requiring all Australian universities to give consideration to teaching and assessment of literacy and numeracy skills. While literacy skills are both familiar and core to journalism education courses and programs, numeracy skills are not as universally incorporated. Problems with the incorporation of numeracy teaching in journalism and communications programs include existing staff skill sets not including numeracy training experience, reluctance of students to engage with maths content, and a shortage of industry-relevant teaching materials. Solutions that some universities are exploring include outsourced online tutorial programs, such as the McGraw Hill product Assessment and Learning in Knowledge Spaces (ALEKS). This paper will present the results of a trial of the ALEKS program both throughout all of Edith Cowan University and specifically within a journalism unit. The study will include success and failure rates in terms of the learning objectives, journalism student feedback about the system, a description of how ALEKS was implemented and data from a brief questionnaire to journalism educators from all Australian universities asking if and how numeracy is taught in their programs. It is hoped that this information will be of value to journalism educators faced with making decisions, in the face of the implementation of AQF-driven internal policies, about how best to incorporate numeracy teaching and assessment into their programs.

Dr Kayt Davies is a senior lecturer at Edith Cowan University in Perth. She teaches Business, Science, Political and Health Journalism and runs a newsroom that produces a publication called 3rd Degree. Her research interests include journalism in oppressive contexts, journalism as research and HREC approvals, and journalism supporting vulnerable communities in remote Australia.

Paul Scott and Janet Fulton
University of Newcastle

'Try before you buy?: The changing nature of internships in journalism'

Traditionally, journalism internships have provided employers with a “try before you buy” approach, and studies have shown that, in the past, an internship has provided a pathway into permanent employment. Furthermore, it can also be demonstrated that journalists have found their own internships a valuable experience and provide practical, work-ready skills for navigating the social structure of journalism. Anecdotally, it has been noted by the authors that internships increase students maturity, confidence and leadership skills. Forde and Meadows (2011) found that journalism internship programs, if run with a solid pedagogical foundation, enhance student learning. The issue of unpaid internships in the media has been in the news again over the last twelve months. Fair Work Australia’s report Experience or Exploitation, released in January 2013, found the media industry to be among the highest in unpaid internships, including print and broadcast journalism, and public relations. In June, 2013, the Media, Entertainment and Arts Alliance (MEAA) released a statement saying the Fair Work Ombudsman (FWO) had agreed to work with the MEAA to ensure “unpaid work arrangements throughout the media industry - including unpaid internships for young people - are fair and lawful” (MEAA, 2013). Internationally, similar concerns around internships are unravelling. In the UK, Labour MP Hazel Belars described the growth of unpaid roles ‘a modern day scandal’ and introduced the Internships (Advertising and Regulation) Bill. Part of the attention around the bill resulted from a 2011 FOI request that showed the BBC had used 6000 unpaid interns in the previous four years. Ongoing, secure employment is increasingly difficult to get in some parts of the media industry and the authors have noted, anecdotally, that organisations seem to be taking advantage of students who are desperate to work in the industry. Many students in journalism programs still want to work for mainstream media organisations and are willing to spend time during their education working in an unpaid capacity. The FWA report surveyed students from the University of Technology Sydney to discover how journalism students viewed internships. However, UTS is a metropolitan university and its students may have a different experience of university than students in other areas. The University of Newcastle (UoN) is a regional university in a one university city and the communication discipline
Education in Countries with Limited Media Freedom

Dr Beate Josephi is an Honorary Senior Lecturer at Edith Cowan University. Her publications include a novel.

Shaped by both American and German equivalent as examples, it can be illustrated that the Australian literary journalistic tradition has been developed a news culture not necessarily shared by other nations. In addition, other factors can also play a role. The value, for example, placed on objectivity, topicality and clarity, stems from a journalist criterion of research, objectivity, topicality and clarity, or the literary criteria of immersion, narrative techniques, and convey information to the reader which readers will engage. This is a technique that draws on that vital trait of the journalist specific technique of selecting and describing characters' 'status symbols' to produce writing with which readers will engage. This is a technique that draws on that vital trait of the journalist -- the ability to observe and convey information to the reader as succinctly and powerfully as possible, keeping in mind at all times that this is a subjective process and relies upon the reader's trust.

Education in Countries with Limited Media Freedom

Dr Carolyne Lee is a senior lecturer in Media and Communications at the University of Melbourne. Her published research is in the areas of media language and narrative. Her latest book is Our Very Own Adventure: Towards a Poetics of the Short Story (Melbourne University Press, 2011).

Jennifer Martin (formerly Cook) is a novelist and award-winning broadcast journalist who has worked across print, radio and online media platforms. Jennifer teaches in both the Media and Communications program and the Centre for Advancing Journalism at the University of Melbourne. A PhD candidate, she is researching the notion of 'quality' in journalism.

Literary Journalism – Contemplating Traditions and Criteria

Criteria are the bane and salvation of any methodological approach to literary journalism. Without making clear what is looked for or against what specifics texts are measured, literary journalism has the danger of being mired in the world of fluid borders and imprecision which, in the mind of many, seems to be its home anyway. By now, a number of common values and critical issues have been established for literary journalism, such as the journalistic criteria of research, objectivity, topicality and clarity, or the literary criteria of immersion, narrative techniques, strong personal voice and subjective evaluation of events and people. Yet these criteria are not value neutral. They emerge out of existing conventions and give insight into the evolution of particular journalistic and literary cultures. The value, for example, placed on objectivity, topicality and clarity, stems from a journalistic tradition that had early developed a news culture not necessarily shared by other nations. In addition, other factors can also play a role. By comparing Australian and German works, it can be shown that other elements, such as media laws and regulations, or conventions, can influence the literary journalism of a country. Using Anna Funder’s Stasiland and its closest German equivalent as examples, it can be illustrated that the Australian literary journalistic tradition has been shaped by both American and British practices which, to paraphrase Tom Wolfe, permit a journalism that reads like a novel.

Dr Beate Josephi is an Honorary Senior Lecturer at Edith Cowan University. Her publications include Journalism Education in Countries with Limited Media Freedom (2010). Her chapters and articles have appeared internationally.
in handbooks and journals, including her recently guest edited *Journalism 14*(4). She is a member of IAMCR’s International Council.

**Multiculturalism and the media, Wednesday, 1245-1415**

Susan Forde and Heather Anderson
Griffith University

‘Is it Justice, or Just Us?’: Examining how radical media and the news framed an Aboriginal death in police custody’

In 1993 in Brisbane, an 18-year-old Aboriginal man was arrested by police for disorderly conduct in an inner-city suburb. In the 21 minutes it took for the police to take the young offender to the local watch-house, he had died in the back of the police van. The untimely death of Daniel Yock became a trigger for the re-invigoration of the Aboriginal ‘deaths in custody’ movement, a political cause which had previously received significant mainstream and alternative news media coverage during a Royal Commission into the issue in the mid-1980s. Altercations between local Indigenous groups and police followed Yock’s death, political rallies were called and government reports produced. This paper examines media treatment of the death of Daniel Yock with a new consideration for the connection between radical media and progressive social movements. We endeavour to draw contrasts not only with the mainstream (commercial and public) news coverage of the deaths in custody movement, but between ‘radical’ media such as that produced by the local socialist movement; and Indigenous community media. We acknowledge existing research which identifies clear connections between social movements and their media (Downing, 2008; Atton, 2010; Harcup 2012; McCurdy, 2012) and which elevates the consideration of social movements in media analysis. The paper also contributes to ongoing discussions within the sector of community media studies which interrogate the nuances of community, alternative and radical media.

Susan Forde is Associate Professor, Griffith Centre for Cultural Research.
Dr Heather Anderson, Griffith Centre for Cultural Research.

Chris Thomson and Dr Bonita Mason
Curtin University

Teaching deep engagement with Indigenous groups while maintaining Fourth Estate journalism in the fast-paced online era

A recent study into a Western Australian land rights dispute demonstrated that much Indigenous affairs reporting in Western Australia continues to reproduce “colonial discourse”, is partial and therefore inaccurate, and perpetuates racist stereotypes of nuisance, criminality and incompetent parenting (Kerr & Cox, forthcoming). In an attempt to improve Indigenous affairs media reporting in Western Australia, and to produce competent and confident Indigenous affairs reporters, six Curtin University journalism students took part in an Indigenous community engagement service learning pilot project. Students were supported to engage deeply with community groups that work with or represent members of Perth’s Noongar community, and used the methods of both action research and journalism to produce independent stories with a strong and historically informed sense of place. The feature and photojournalistic stories were published in the Curtin journalism newspaper, *The Western Independent*, and on the university’s *Ink*Wire news website. The project raised questions about student capacity, the role of the lecturer, community expectations, voice, story content and journalistic independence. This paper describes how the students were supported to produce stories in a cross-cultural reporting environment, demonstrates preliminary findings and suggests possibilities for future service-learning journalism projects. In brief, we found that deep engagement with Noongar community groups allowed students to confront and address fundamental issues of race, representation of ‘the other’, and the risk of appropriating stories. By immersing themselves in the culture and work of Indigenous community groups, journalism students successfully negotiated the terrain between the partnering imperative of action research and the need to maintain editorial independence. They also navigated community-group expectations about public relations, and the challenges posed by the framework of news and news editing. The students and the community groups both gained a greater understanding about the transformative power of journalism. Another important finding is that such an approach to story sourcing and production can encourage a fuller expression of a genuine sense of place.

Larry Schwartz
Swinburne University of Technology

*A Knock at the Door: how asylum seekers created a counter-narrative to government propaganda reported in media 2000-2003*
Ten years ago last month, a group of asylum seekers and refugee activists obtained permission to perform a song-and-storytelling play in a small theatrette inside Parliament House, Canberra. Senator Andrew Bartlett and Dr Carmen Lawrence were said to have been two of the few politicians to attend on November 23. The play was entitled *Kan Yama Kan* from the Arabic for *Once Upon a Time* (or in Dari, *Yeki Bood Yeki Nabood*). But while inside Parliament House, the artists – who included Iraqis, Afghans, Iranians and others – attended pre-arranged meetings with influential politicians including then-Immigration Minister Amanda Vanstone to plead for the right to remain in Australia. Using a range of qualitative methods including structured and unstructured interviews and exegesis of a creative artefact, this paper explores the motivations and background of most of the participants at that event as one way of discovering:

1. How the event was planned and successfully executed
2. The policy framework in place at the time in which the asylum seekers had
   a. Arrived in Australia by boat
   b. Obtained temporary protection visas (TPVs) and endured detention at Woomera in the Simpson Desert and elsewhere
   c. How the TPV regulations which denied them access to 510 hours of federally funded language classes provided to other refugees and migrants but not to TPV holders were subverted
   d. Used a theatre-based political campaign based at the Fitzroy Learning Network in Melbourne to provide a counter narrative to the prevailing media coverage which had been compromised by Federal Government propaganda aimed at vilifying people seeking refuge in Australia.

It remains especially topical and relevant given the developments since the September 7 election of the Liberal-National Coalition Government in 2013. This is a summary of a two-part research project – a non-fiction artifact and exegesis – which forms my research towards a PhD at Swinburne University of Technology. Theoretical framework: I use the approach of Professor Josie Arnold, who instituted Swinburne University’s PhD in Writing by Artifact and Exegesis form (in which the primary text can be a novel, crime fiction, autobiography, biography, history, fantasy and others including business writing and film script), outlined in her 2007 book, *Practice Led Research: A dynamic way to knowledge*.

Larry Schwartz is a Journalism Lecturer at Swinburne University of Technology

**Saba Bebawi and John Cokley**
Swinburne University of Technology

**Safe Haven: stage 1 of a comparative analysis of reporting refugees in Jordan and Australia**

This study explores the journalistic coverage of individuals and groups who seek refuge from conflict-ridden regions. Specifically, this research asks: ‘How do journalists in Jordan report about refugees in comparison with Australia?’

Jordan is a country in the Middle East which is now home to thousands of Syrian refugees. This study aims to understand the different ways in which the refugee crisis is reported within Jordan by conducting a thematic content analysis of online Jordanian newspapers in both English and Arabic over a period of a month in 2013. This will in turn allow us to conduct a comparative analysis of Australian reporting about refugees at the same time and attempt to develop a new decision-support matrix for Australian journalists on how to conceive, develop, structure and publish stories about refugees and asylum seekers in Australia. Jordan, a small almost-landlocked monarchy east of Israel and bordering Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Palestine and Syria, finds itself touching all the regional hotspots for refugees and asylum seekers. Yet it has become known as a safe haven for those fleeing the turmoil in other countries, including another near neighbour, Egypt. More than 7000 souls enter its territory every day seeking shelter. This creates a measurable amount of social, political and economic churn which is then reflected and expressed in the work of local and international journalists. Superficially, Australia is very different from Jordan: culturally, religiously, politically, it’s a different size, has a different economy and Australia is an island far from anywhere else. Also the number of refugees and asylum seekers coming to Australia is much fewer than 7000 a day. However the reporting of refugees and asylum seeker issues in Australia ‘sounds like’ a country which more like Jordan: short of space, low on resources and besieged with people at the border. This paper’s methodology – a coded content analysis and framing approach – tests that impression and proceeds to assist with the development of a new decision-support matrix for Australian journalists in how to report about refugees here.

Saba Bebawi PhD is a journalism and media researcher with research interests in the role of media in democracy-building, and media power. Saba was a broadcaster/producer for Radio Jordan English service for four years. She also worked for CNN, World New Events (USA), and Dubai TV. Saba has previously held academic positions at
Monash University in Australia and Zayed University in the UAE. Saba is currently a lecturer in Journalism at Swinburne University in Melbourne.

John Cokley PhD is Associate Professor in Journalism at Swinburne University of Technology, Melbourne. He worked as a reporter and feature writer, subeditor, trainer and website developer at News Limited in Brisbane, Australia, between 1984 and 2006, after working for the Daily Sun newspaper and the Australian Associated Press wire service (1984-1985). He was the first Journalist-in-Residence at Griffith University (2002) and continues to maintain a level of professional practice in the private sector as a member of Editors Victoria. He joined Swinburne in 2012.

Health and journalism, Wednesday, 1430-1600

Fay Anderson and Mia Lindgren
Monash University

Trauma and professional culture

Journalists have long trafficked in the causes of trauma – accounts of war, loss, suicide, crime, and violence – as well as psychological profiling of deviant aberration, bearing witness and recording personal testimony. This paper will examine the changes in the professional culture and the effect on reporting trauma, how it influences Australian media coverage and the impact on the individuals they write about. Though there is a large body of literature in the area of trauma studies there is a dearth of academic scholarship on the relationship between trauma and journalism and how reporting trauma personally impacts on journalists. Much of the available literature has focused on trauma and conflict reporting, most notably Anthony Feinstein’s seminal account, *Journalists under Fire*, which examined the psychological damage of those who bear witness to war. Few texts look at the common journalistic experience of reporting ‘everyday traumas’ such as crime, traffic deaths and illness. This paper will stake out a new academic study into trauma and the Australian journalistic professional culture. It will survey the international and Australian scholarship relating to media and trauma; the different genres of reporting trauma and violence; journalism culture; ethics and interviewing; witnessing and listening to trauma; and the best practice adopted by Australian media organisations. In addition, it will analyse the changes in journalistic culture and explore industry support and awareness of trauma and reporting. While the boundaries of journalism and what constitutes journalism is experiencing seismic change, so too is the definition of who is a journalist. The issue of emotionally challenging interviews will have a broader impact as a result so this paper will also consider trauma reporting in relationship to the growing number of freelancers who, in most cases, are excluded from the institutional support and training offered by media organisations and their editorial staff.

Dr Fay Anderson is a senior lecturer in the School of Journalism, Australian and Indigenous Studies at Monash University. She has published widely on war journalism, media history, photography and violence. In 2012 she was awarded an ARC Linkage Grant with Michael Gawenda, Kate Darian-Smith and Sally Young to investigate the history and significance of Australian press photography. Fay’s co-authored book, *Witnesses to War: The History of Australian Conflict Reporting*, was published by Melbourne University Publishing in 2011.

Associate Professor Mia Lindgren is Head of School of Journalism, Australian and Indigenous Studies at Monash University. She is co-author of the popular book *Australian Broadcast Journalism* (3rd edn, 2013, OUP) and has also published a number of articles about practice-based journalism methodology, asbestos and trauma. She is a producer of radio features and documentaries for ABC Radio National.

Lisa Wilshere-Cumming
Griffith University

Crossing Borders and Boundaries: New pedagogies in journalism research through acquired brain injury representation – forging new narratives through improved praxis

The ethics of fair representation and mediatization are significant issues in traditional journalism broadcast television cultures particularly where acquired brain injury (ABI) is concerned. This dated style of ABI representation profoundly impacts on socio-political, ontological, and institutional systems. Even though the expeditious growth of digital modalities offers journalists instantaneous access to wide-ranging medical materials, this inclusiveness is thwarted by conservative ideological and identity challenges. Therefore the gap between accurate public information and equal treatment and health equity regarding ABI in broadcast media still exists. To challenge this trend there is a critical need for journalism educators to rethink their gathering and dissemination strategies in pursuance of improved interactive praxis through active digital media pedagogies for students and researchers.
Raising the standard of journalism pedagogies about the representation issues surrounding ABI will not only inform mass media (ACMA) about a need for new ABI standards but inform future reporters and researchers about embracing new online technologies. Emerging digital media deliberations about diverse interdisciplinary investigation techniques (such as these) may also support journalism academics facing challenges having their discipline recognised as a valid university-based field of qualitative research. In the JEAA Conference I will draw on my past honours study by presenting clips from ‘Demystifying Brain Injury’, my televised documentary on ABI, and that will form a critical juncture to explain crucial elements of my current PhD approach by means of QR Codes and online videos. The overall goal of this interactive JEAA session is to enhance journalism pedagogy regarding progressive ways to ‘represent’ neglected ABI stigmatization issues. My multi-platform dissemination ABI model and related media pedagogies are gaining global interest and academic momentum having been canvassed at conferences in Australia and in the UK.

Lisa Wilshere-Cumming is a PhD candidate at Griffith University in Brisbane. Her research topic is Media Representation of Acquired Brain Injury (ABI). Lisa is a journalist, book author and television presenter. She has spoken at conferences in the UK and Australia. Lisa has extensively published with Oscar-winning comedian Jerry Lewis. Her ABI documentary series was broadcast on Australian television.

Marc Bryant and Jenyfer Locke

Mindframe National Media Initiative (HIMH)

Eating disorders: incorporating an emerging issue into the Mindframe for journalism education curricula resources

The Mindframe National Media Initiative, managed by the Hunter Institute of Mental Health (HIMH), has a range of curriculum resources for journalism educators on responsible portrayals of mental illness and suicide, including case studies with specific scenarios relating to both issues. In partnership with the National Eating Disorders Collaboration (NEDC), Mindframe developed a new resource titled ‘Reporting and Portrayal of Eating Disorders’ in 2012. This guide supports media professionals to make informed choices about the language and images they use and the messages they convey on this issue. This paper will present how Mindframe, in partnership with the NEDC, developed this innovative resource and working towards embedding it within journalism education curricula. Eating disorders are serious and complex mental illnesses with high mortality rates and it is vital that journalists have an understanding of the importance of well informed, accurate and sensitive reporting: studies indicate that women have been introduced to behaviours associated with eating disorders through media representations of the ‘thin ideal’ resulting in greater body dissatisfaction and disordered eating behaviour. Approximately nine per cent of Australians will experience an eating disorder at some point in their lifetime, thus journalists have great potential in raising community awareness and understanding of the risk factors and promoting well informed coverage about eating disorders in order to ensure positive outcomes. However, the illnesses can be difficult to portray in the mass media, and the role of social media and inappropriate reporting can potentially lead to harmful impacts on those living with or at risk of developing an eating disorder. Eating disorders communication strategies require a multi-strand approach that includes:

- Media literacy;
- Media advocacy;
- Education programs;
- Collaboration.

From this abstract, audience members will gain an introduction to the complexity of eating disorders and the importance of accurate and sensitive portrayals within the mass media. In addition, members will learn how journalism educators can play a key role in building the capacity for future journalists on this issue by the development of a new education case study for students.

Marc Bryant and Jenyfer Locke are from the Mindframe National Media Initiative (HIMH)

Mark Pearson and Tom Morton

Griffith University

Forensic patients, investigative journalism, and open justice: towards a mindfulness-based approach to journalism ethics

Open justice is a fundamental principle of the rule of law in liberal democracies; Former NSW Chief Justice Jim Spigelman has argued that the principle that justice must be seen to be done ‘is one of the most pervasive axioms of the administration of common law systems’ (Spigelman 2005). It is broadly acknowledged that journalists, and investigative journalists in particular, can make an important contribution to open justice and public accountability
through fair and accurate reporting of court proceedings (Ettema & Glasser 1998, de Burgh 2000). However, journalists who want to report on the cases of forensic mental health patients face very significant restrictions on what they can report. Forensic patients are persons who have committed a crime – usually a serious crime - but have been found not guilty or not fit to plead by reason of mental illness. Once they enter the forensic system, they usually fall under the jurisdiction of a mental health review tribunal. The proceedings of these tribunals ‘usually have stringent non-publication, non-identification, and secrecy provisions with substantial fines or jail terms applicable in the breach.’ (Pearson 2011). While mental health authorities claim that these provisions are intended to protect the privacy of patients, it is arguable that they are in conflict with fundamental principles of open justice and the rule of law. A current collaborative research project undertaken by the authors examines the case study of a forensic patient (“Patient A”) who wishes to have the secrecy provisions on his case lifted, and has sought leave from the NSW Mental Health Review Tribunal and the Supreme Court to allow his name and details of his case to be reported by journalists. The case, and our research project, raise complex and sensitive ethical issues for journalists. We seek to explore these issues through an ethical approach which complements conventional codes of journalism ethics (e.g. the MEAA Code) with a ‘mindfulness-based’ ethical framework. This paper develops some preliminary ideas about what such a framework might look like, and how it would work in practice.

Trevor Cullen
Edith Cowan University

Media Doctor’s assessment of medical journalism in Australia

Health is a topic that affects everyone either through their own personal experiences or those of a family member, friend or work colleague. So, it is not surprising to hear that there is increasing interest in health information. For example, a national survey in 2013 into internet use in the United States showed 59 per cent of people had searched for health information, and that six out of 10 respondents said the information they found online affected their decision about how to treat an illness or a medical condition. But what about the quality of health information found on these sites. Is anyone monitoring them for fairness, balance and accuracy? Media Doctor Australia, which operated from 2004 – 2012 was a website that reviewed medical stories published in the Australian media, including newspaper articles, online news stories, television and radio broadcast transcripts. It aimed to provide an objective analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of news stories about treatments and procedures intended for use in humans that the articles describe as new. A review of 1323 health stories on the website from 2005 -2009 revealed that, while the overall quality of medical reporting remained poor, there were small improvements in broadsheet newspapers. Medical stories on commercial television and in tabloid newspapers continued to be of a poor quality. Similar Media Doctor websites still operate in the US, Canada and Hong Kong. This paper provides a brief snapshot into these and other shortcomings that were exposed about the state of medical journalism in Australia and it suggests ways to improve both the content and credibility of the stories.

Representation and Journalism, Wednesday 1430-1600

Sharon Mascall-Dare and Matthew Ricketson
University of South Australia and University of Canberra

What did you do in the war? The ethics of interviewing veterans for the Anzac Centenary

Preparations for comprehensive media coverage of the Anzac Centenary have been under discussion since 2010 in Australia, when Prime Minister Kevin Rudd formed a National Commission on the Commemoration of the Anzac Centenary. The Commission’s findings (reported in 2011) discussed the relevance of media engagement but did not anticipate a significant shift in national debate. The traumatic experiences of veterans – particularly those returning from Iraq and Afghanistan – have become a dominant theme over the past two years and are increasingly relevant as Australia revisits the Anzac legend in a contemporary context. This presentation will highlight the importance of journalism education in preparing journalists at all stages of their careers to handle interviews with veterans responsibly: it will also discuss how resources developed by the Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma have relevance for journalists and journalism educators as part of preparations for the Anzac Centenary.

Sharon Mascall-Dare is a working journalist who has recently completed her PhD at UniSA. Her research outputs include the Anzac Day Media Style Guides, offering guidance to journalists covering the Anzac Centenary.

Matthew Ricketson is Professor of Journalism at the University of Canberra. He is currently Chair of the Board of Directors, Dart Asia-Pacific.
Mairead MacKinnon
University of Queensland

**Media representations of homelessness in The Australian newspaper, 2008-2012**

Homelessness is a growing problem in Australia with approximately 105,237 people currently homeless. Homelessness is something not everyone sees on a daily basis, or very often at all, so the media plays a major role in the distribution of information about homelessness. The way the media represents homelessness can have an impact on public perceptions of the issue. It is not only the public that is influenced by the media. Government officials and policy makers are also affected. Therefore, how the media portrays homelessness can have a dramatic influence on homeless people themselves. This paper draws on the theoretical frameworks of media representations, agenda-setting, and media framing to examine The Australian newspaper coverage of homelessness from December 21, 2008 to December 21, 2012. A content analysis was conducted via Leximancer analytical software to investigate how the media represent the homeless, how homelessness is framed and trends in media coverage of homelessness. Findings indicate that newspaper coverage of homelessness in The Australian is overwhelmingly critical of the government and its policies. Coverage focused on the need for more affordable housing and mental health programs. The findings also show that The Australian uses official sources much more frequently than it does citizens or homeless people themselves. A decline in coverage between 2008 and 2012 was also evident, which could have implications for homeless-related policies if the issue is no longer getting coverage. This paper outlines the importance of understanding media representations and media framing of homelessness, and the implications for this. This paper concludes with some limitations of the current study and some suggestions for further research in the field of media representations of homelessness.

Mairead MacKinnon is a Master of Journalism candidate at the University of Queensland

Apurva Kirti Sharma
Latrobe University

**Challenge of independence and governance of public service broadcasters during the time of war: A case study: Minister Richard Alston’s complaints against ABC Radio National’s AM show reportage of the Iraq War**

Governmental pressure on the media during times of war is nothing new, a certain degree of loyalty is generally expected from the national media, particularly that which is funded from the public purse. When this expected cooperation is not forthcoming, governments generally tend to portray media criticism as disloyal and biased. Such expectations on the part of governments raise thorny questions for democracies, particularly regarding the status and defence of public broadcasters’ independence. This paper explores allegations of political bias made against Australia’s public service broadcaster by a government minister, Senator Richard Alston - who complained about reportage of the 2003 Iraq War on Australian Broadcasting Corporation’s (ABC) flagship radio current affairs show, AM - along with the arguments behind such allegations and the impact and after effects for the public broadcaster.

In 2003, Senator Richard Alston, the then Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts, claimed that the ABC did not meet ‘appropriate standards’ in its coverage of the Iraq War. He issued a detailed list of 68 examples of biased coverage which were successively dealt with by the three inquiries namely: The ABC’s internal Complaints Review Executive (CRE), Independent Complaints Review Panel (ICRP) and Australian Broadcasting Authority (ABA). Out of 68 allegations, only which six were upheld, a decision arrived at by all three inquiries. The federal government of Australia funds the ABC and in 2003, due to the funding cuts, the ABC board decided to cut the two digital television channels ‘Kids’ and ‘Fly’ and the government was not satisfied with this move of the public broadcaster. On the other hand, during the same time, the public opinion swung by a slim majority in favour of involvement of the war over the first half of 2003 and Senator Alston sensed it. Therefore, it was suspected that the timing of Minister Alston’s attack of labelling ABC as anti-American was a direct response to the cuts of these two politically sensitive digital channels by the ABC. This paper explores three research objectives: i) to determine whether the allegations of anti-Americanism be better described as criticism; ii) to understand how de facto independence is affected by the cuts in the ABC’s political coverage, which dissatisfied the government; iii) to analyse how the editorial independent of the ABC was maintained even during the time of financial crisis. Highlighting the tensions between de jure and de facto independence for public service broadcasting, I explore the reasons underlying the differences between the two independences, arguing that while public service broadcasters as public institutions work for the interest of the nation, ultimately public trust requires evidence of independence and adherence to institutional norms and principles beyond the reach of vested interests – corporate and party political.

Apurva Kirti Sharma is a student of Latrobe University, pursuing a Masters (Research) degree and researching on the public service broadcasters of Australia and UK, precisely on the ABC and the BBC respectively.
Maxine Newlands
James Cook University

Blurring the Journalistic Boundaries between Pedagogy and a Mediatised Society

Journalism is no longer the preserve of the Humanities and Social Sciences. Every facet of academia, education and universities are impacted by the mediatisation of society. Scientists, both natural and social, are ever more including analysis of grant applications, student thesis, pedagogical practices, and the curriculum. At the same time, technical innovations have generated new threads to pedagogical practice and research outputs. Post graduate students are including journalistic discourse in their research proposals. The media is the message, and we are the media. For example, The Conversation.com.au is a multi-disciplinary concept involving politics, scientists, sociologists, anthropologists, business, environmentalists and a plethora of academic fields, linked through a common discourse of journalism. Such websites are filtering down into pedagogical practices as journalism and the curriculum are increasing bound together in academic analysis. Increasingly, academics are infused with messages to tweet their research, tell friends on Facebook and examine media impacts from non-traditional fields. Through original empirical research and textual analysis of media text, this paper explores the mediatisation of academia; and asks if there is a clear boundary between journalism and academics? Or do academics have to keep the journalist in mind when presenting their research; and how much has the shift in traditional journalistic practices altered our pedagogical practises.

Dr Maxine Newlands is a lecturer in journalism at the James Cook University, Qld. She is also a media practitioner in journalism for the BBC and commercial radio in the UK, The Ecologist, The Conversation, and has published numerous book chapters. Maxine’s research focuses on environmental journalism, activism, media discourse and social justice.