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Editorial

The final bulletin for 2007 is an opportunity to mention some achievements in research and to acknowledge the expertise and commitment of everyone in the College. 2007 has been an excellent year for growth, as the figures will show: increasing competitive funding, attracting internationally renowned staff, hosting four UWS research centres, a UWS research group, and four College research nodes. These are incontestable. Our research placement scheme, now in its third year, has become a real driver of opportunity for academics building their research and feeding discoveries back into teaching. The other Colleges are following suit. The commitment of our heads of school to the mobility of staff signals an expansive view of research concentration. It's redolent of a

culture of investment led inspirationally by our Executive Dean.

Post AUQA, our research training capacity is more sharply focused on quality supervision and mentoring. Recent survey figures (2006) for the College show a significant increase in student satisfaction but there are some challenges ahead, and this is good. Student perception of an intellectual climate needs attention. This is paradoxical, given the College's research success. But we are not alone: Intellectual climate is also an issue for students in other universities. The data for our College shows solid improvement. Also, the impact of the 2007 student experience is yet to be quantified. We acknowledge that an intellectual climate is a complex set of variables, and should evaluate them before we can make improvements. A closer look at the research and teaching nexus in the College

is a good place to start. We should ask some questions: how do we integrate research students in the life of the College? What are our mentoring strategies? How sophisticated is our IT capability? How well do we communicate with research students, especially the part timers? What social interactions are available to staff and students? Are they regular and meaningful? Do we acknowledge unreservedly the achievements of all staff and students? How do we ensure a culture of co-location of facilities and programs in a multi campus environment? How well do we foster cross disciplinary opportunities? There will be more questions for the College about improving student satisfaction. For now, we can enjoy the approaching festive season and regroup in the new year for a collegially rewarding 2008.

Professor Michael Atherton
Associate Dean (Research)

College conference 2007 a resounding success!

- *organised, well-structured, good food, good venues...*
- *collegial camaraderie observing each other's progress...*
- *sharing the experience...*
- *opportunity to engage with people from other disciplines...*
- *mix of presentations; inspiring fantastic papers and research coming out of UWS...*
- *friendly and professional...*
- *able to network and interact with other candidates...*
- *excellent forum for discussing research...*

Based on the valuable feedback from participants, our second college conference was very successful, and is on track to become an annual fixture.

There were 23 sessions, 66 papers, 6 symposia and 7 posters. Once again, members of the Professoriate stepped up to chair sessions and add to the mentoring.

Two workshops, one on Engagement, presented by PVC Engagement, Dr Barbara Holland, the other on Ethics, presented by Associate Professor Christine Halse, were well attended and appreciated. The conference included an interactive sound and image exhibition superbly curated by MARCS doctoral candidate, Robert Sazdov; and literary authors, Professor Jane Goodall (The Visitor) and Dr Gabrielle Carey (So Many Selves), delighted a wine-drinking audience, with animated readings of their recent work.

As well as a raft of affirmations for the conference, there were some recommendations for next time:

- *more candidates and supervisors should attend...*
- *less paper reading and more discussion...*
- *can the papers be peer reviewed?...*
- *invite other universities to participate...*
- *we need more interaction with academics...*

We can draw the conclusion that the College Conference helps improve a candidate's sense of belonging to a vibrant intellectual environment; and it reinforces the programs and schemes offered by our schools and research concentrations. I congratulate candidates, supervisors and research leaders, not only for supporting this conference, but for making 2007 another big year for College research.

Professor Michael Atherton
Associate Dean (Research)



Congratulations to Recent HDR Graduates

Congratulations to the graduating HDR candidates at the September ceremonies. Special thank you to the supervisors on a sterling effort.

Dr Affie Adagio,
 Dr Katrina Barker,
 Dr Rosemary Beaumont,
 Dr Carol Birrell,
 Dr Kaaren Blom,
 Dr Peter Brown,
 Dr Joanne Cummings,
 Dr Jann Dark,
 Ms Laraine Dunn,
 Dr Nola Farman,
 Dr Martin Hardy,
 Ms Jessica Hartcher-O'Brien,
 Dr Donna Hewitt,
 Dr Poonkhin (George) Khut,
 Dr Sheridan Linnell,
 Dr Stephen McNally,
 Dr Janelle Romaine Moreton,
 Dr Kylie Morgan,
 Mr Paul Morgan,
 Ms Julia Park,
 Dr Marie-Therese Proctor,
 Ms Ingrid Raj,
 Dr Katrina Simpson,
 Dr William Williamson,
 Dr Tim Wong,
 Dr Katina Zammit.

Post Impressions: A Travel Guide for Tragic Intellectuals

by Hollis Taylor, published by Twisted Fiddle/Frog Peak, fp@frogpeak.org

An American woman (Hollis Taylor) and an Australian man (Jon Rose) set out to explore and perform on the giant musical instruments covering the continent of Australia: fences. In pursuit of their instruments, including the Rabbit-Proof Fence and the 3300-mile-long Dingo Fence, the duo survive several boggings, a fly plague, a flea infestation, deadly snakes and crocodiles, heatstroke, floods, storms, bush fires, and their own ignorance.

They travel 25,000 miles, engaging with a flying priest, an auctioneer, an Aboriginal gum-leaf virtuoso, the first piano in Central Australia, a singing dingo, fence runners, and other colourful bush personalities.

Their travelogue, by turns bent and philosophical, includes a bonus DVD of 40 outback fence performances, 88 colour photos, and fence music and birdsong transcriptions.

Excerpt from Post Impressions

"The morning tiptoes in, all pastel except parrots whose plumage shocks in the rich hues of satin evening gowns. This pageant is of little interest to Jon, who is well on his way to becoming a fence nerd. He is anticipating Yalata and our arrival at the Dingo Fence, about an hour away as near as he can tell.

It's the world's longest man-made structure, he rattles off, traversing 3,300 miles across three states, well more than twice as long as the Great Wall of China.

I've been slow to warm to it. This Fence doesn't figure on most maps, and when it does, it's a vague dotted line progressing in fits and starts as if the unsure hand of its cartographer had erased the displeasing bits, or as if some parts of it flow through prohibited areas under state censorship. It's downright un-American, this subtlety. Where are the T-shirts, the bragging billboards? Who will write its tourist text? If the Dingo Fence does not command a sign, a shop, or a TV screen, I won't believe a word of it.

As we roll over a grid, Jon shouts, Back up! Back up!

Something clicked in his brain: grid=fence. Yes, it's here, well before we expected it. We pull down a steep gravel embankment and get out for an inspection. Its six feet of wire mesh conclude with six inches of rabbit netting embedded in the ground. Warning signs hang from it: Keep Out, Permission Required, Danger: Poison (1080 poison is used along the Fence for lacing dingo baits). Jon never bothers obtaining permission. This will not even slow him down.

The Fence spans both sides of the highway, not so much interrupted by as continued by the unusual grid, a massive framework of widely spaced, narrow metal bars about 10 feet long. I can barely walk on it; clearly it's meant to stop something more agile and wily than cattle. When the heavy trucks roll over it, the grid rings out like a symphonic gong. Jon records every truck for 20 minutes and then performs a drum solo on the grid with sticks and brushes. Next, he plays the attached fence, which the grid amplifies as well. Farther down, we improvise a double bow solo on the dusty, barbed Fence proper."

Sue Bell

Hollis is a doctoral candidate writing up her thesis: Pied Butcherbird Song: the music of nature and the nature of music.

The author, together with Jon Rose, at an outback fence



Judith Butler in Conversation: Analyzing the Talk and Texts of Everyday Life

The Narrative, Discourse and Pedagogy College of Arts Research Group is delighted to celebrate the launch of Judith Butler in Conversation: Analyzing the Talk and texts of Everyday Life edited by Bronwyn Davies and published by Routledge. In a format that demands careful listening and response, the scholars in this book interact with Butler and with her writing, and they interact with each other. Within this dynamic interactive space, they take up Butler's body of work and they carry it in new and exciting directions. Their conversations and writing are, in turn, funny,

exciting, surprising and moving. How has Judith Butler's writing contributed to thought in the Social Sciences and Humanities? The participants in this project draw on various aspects of Butler's conceptual work and they question how it has opened up the possibilities of thought in areas of study as diverse as Theater Studies, Education, and Narrative Therapy. UWS scholars featured include Bronwyn Davies, Cristyn Davies, Susanne Gannon, Sheridan Linnell, and David McInnes.

Cristyn Davies

Down-Unter Den Linden: Berlin comes to Sydney at Oktober Symposium

The Centre for Cultural Research (CCR) in association with the Urban Research Centre convened a high-profile symposium Liquid Cities: Berlin and Sydney in Conversation at the Customs House Sydney from 4 to 6 October.

The symposium was part of the GERMANY FACES AUSTRALIA festival. Sponsored jointly by the Goethe Institut Australien, the City of Sydney of Council, the University of Sydney and the German Consular General Sydney, GERMANY FACES AUSTRALIA was a six week celebration of German art and culture.

Professor Ien Ang, Professor Helen Armstrong and Dr Fiona Allon of CCR gave papers at the well-attended event. Guest speakers included John Whitehouse, partner in Minter Ellison Lawyers and Helen Trinca, editor of The Australian Magazine.

Many of the sessions paired papers on similar themes in the context of the cities of Berlin and Sydney - for example, as 'cities of immigrants' and 'cities of sin'. The Sydney version of the 'sin' theme was discussed by the well-qualified-to-speak Peter Doyle of Macquarie University. Dr Doyle created the bodgie underworld spiv Billy Glasheen, antihero of the picaresque post-war Sydney-set novel Get Rick Quick. Dr Doyle also curated the exhibition City of Shadows: inner city crime and mayhem, 1912-1948, which examined inner-Sydney in the first half of the twentieth century via police crime and

accident scene photographs.

Frau Adrienne Goehler, formerly senator for Science, Research and Culture, based in Berlin, delivered the keynote address at the Liquid Cities CITYTALK, a satellite event held at the City Recital Hall, Angel Place, in the evening of day one. Robert Whitehead of the Sydney Morning Herald and Amrita Cheema of SBS were the co-respondents.

The symposium concluded on an informal and pleasurable note on day three (Saturday). Participants joined one of three meandering walks, led by local artists, under eucalypts rather than lindens, around harbour side Sydney to 'mystery' destinations.

The symposium received widespread press coverage. Dr Allon, the convener, was quoted at length in the Sydney Morning Herald, warning city planners against precipitately bulldozing their seamier quarters, such as Sydney's King's Cross, which have traditionally been incubators of Bohemian creativity.

Dr Allon also featured on page one of the popular afternoon commuter newspaper, mX.

The Liquid Cities symposium coincided with an exchange visit to the Centre for Cultural Research (CCR) by a team of researchers from two German universities. A workshop at CCR's Parramatta campus, attended by



postgraduate and postdoctoral researchers from Berlin's Open University and the University of Potsdam, and CCR members and students, immediately followed the Sydney event. Several of the German visitors had given papers at the symposium.

The visit to Sydney by the German team reciprocated that made by UWS staff to Berlin in 2006. An ARC Linkage International grant for the project Open Cities, together with German-end funding, made the exchanges possible.

The Sydney workshop renewed face-to-face collaboration on the projects themes that include urban citizenship and transnationalism in the two 'global' cities, the contemporary city as site of contested cultural and political identities, and comparison of the two cities' European Union and Pacific Rim nation contexts.

Wayne Peake

External Funding Outcomes

Congratulations to all of those researchers awarded external research grants. The list of successful applicants follows.

2008 ARC Discovery

Prof DM Stevenson; A/Prof S Tomsen; Prof DC Rowe

The City after Dark: The Governance and Lived Experience of Urban Night Time Culture
CCR

Dr B Hutchins; Prof DC Rowe (UWS)

Struggling for Possession: The Control and Use of Online Media Sport
CCR

Prof RG Craven; Prof HW Marsh; Prof L Wheeler; Dr AS Yeung; Ms M Seaton

Realising Gifted Students' Potential: Elucidating psychosocial determinants and the impact of different educational settings on educational outcomes and psychosocial wellbeing
CER

Prof RT Dean

Temporal segmentation, leadership and cognition in musical improvisation and creativity
MARCS

Dr MD Tyler

Development of second language phonetic and phonological categories
MARCS

Dr CK So

Unveiling the mystery of tone perception: How does native language prosody affect adults' perception of foreign tones?
MARCS

2008 ARC Discovery - Indigenous Researchers Development

Mr GH Bodkin-Andrews; Prof RG Craven; Dr AS Yeung

Bubalamai Bawa Gumada. Healing the Wounds of the Heart: A Research-Based Intervention Diminishing the Impact of Racism and Stereotype Threat
CER

Mr P McKenzie; Prof MJ Atherton; Prof RG Craven

Hidden Talent: A Critical Analysis of the Contributions of Aboriginal Musicians of the New England Tablelands to Contemporary Aboriginal Culture and Cultural Revitalisation

Ms L Riley-Mundine; Prof RG Craven; Dr GE Munns

Conditions for Success to Enhance Aboriginal Education

2008 ARC Linkage Round 1

Dr FR Cameron; Prof RI Hodge; A/Prof BM Neilson; Dr J Salazar; Prof JP Conroy; Prof DJ Karoly; Mr S Chan; Ms C Meehan; Ms LJ Kelly; Prof GP Durant; Mr W LaBar; Dr R Sandell

Global Citizenship and the Agency of the Museum Sector in Climate Change Interventions
CCR

Dr GE Munns; A/Prof WK Sawyer; Mr CR Murray

Teachers For a Fair Go: A study of teachers who 'make a difference' to students in poverty.
CER

A/Prof RJ Leonard; Dr JD Bellamy; A/Prof RL Ollerton

Investing and Cashing in Social Capital: Using denominational differences among Christian churches to identify the costs and benefits of different network patterns
SJSC

2008 ARC Linkage Round 2

Prof RG Craven; Dr AS Yeung; Dr GE Munns; Dr P Cavanagh; Prof JH Lester; Dr B Davies

Seeding Success and Research-Based Intervention for Aboriginal Students: Impact of quality teaching, effective schools, and psychosocial drivers on educational outcomes
CER



Professorial Lectures

This year saw the commencement of a series of professorial lectures. We presented inaugural lectures by:

Professor Meaghan Morris, CCR

The Company of Strangers: how hard can "internationalising" be?

Professor Roger Dean, MARCS

Intangibles in Music.

Professor Cathi Best, MARCS

Tuning in to the "Mother Tongue"

The speakers were wonderful, the events were well attended and you can catch them again at <http://music.uws.edu.au.au/web/coa>

Upcoming lecture

Professor David Rowe, CCR, will present his lecture on 6 December 2007 at 6pm in Lecture Theatre 2, Building EA at Parramatta campus, titled: Boulevard of Broken Screens: Culture Re-Surfaced. Please rsvp Sue Bell, s.bell@uws.edu.au.

IRIS Research Fellow: Professor Chinary Ung, April 2008

Professor Chinary Ung will be the International Research Scheme (IRIS) Research Fellow at the University of Western Sydney's School of Communication Arts in April 2008; he is an expert in intercultural avant-garde composition. His music specialises in the integration of Asian aesthetics within an avant-garde western art-music tradition as well as ethnomusicological work on his native Cambodian Khmer percussion. Ung's work *Inner Voices* (1989) won the Grawemeyer Award—the world's richest composition prize. Past winners include the elite of world composition (such as Lutoslawski, Ligeti, and Boulez).

Whilst resident at UWS in Music, Professor Ung will work with Dr Bruce Crossman and Professor Michael Atherton on their project *Music of the Spirit: Investigations into Asian-Pacific Musical Identity within the Western Art-Music Tradition* funded by grants from the International Research Services Initiatives Scheme and the School of Communication Arts. The site of the research will be several intercultural concerts and forums at the 2008 Aurora Festival in Sydney. Scholarly

forums and lecture-workshops will consider the spiritual traditions behind these works, the musical materials and the intersection of these ideas from Asia and Europe towards renegotiating a Pacific identity. The Chinese multi-art form approach to creativity and European structural ideas are one focus of the research whilst another is improvisatory sound as the genesis for creative ideas. Specifically, the three investigators—Crossman, Atherton and Ung—will work with viola, percussion, electronics and piano, Korean Pansori style vocals, and feature a world premiere of a work by Grawemeyer Award winner Chinary Ung, to generate a practice perspective.

A series of forum-workshops at the Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre and Riverside Theatres will provide scholarly opportunities to reflect on the issues via insider paradigms (reflective-practice), ethnomusicological considerations, and educational creative learning processes. Musical, anthropological, educational and visual arts colleagues such as Anne Boyd (Sydney University), Houston Dunleavy (University of Wollongong), Andrian Pertout (Melbourne University), Garth Paine, Diana Blom, Kim Poole, Alan Lem, David Wright, Anne Power, David Cubby and Gao Ping will participate in the event. This interaction is intended to generate compositions and scholarly writing towards creating an identifiable Pacific musical archive.

[Bruce Crossman](#)