



Flinders  
UNIVERSITY

# RESEARCH INNOVATION AND EXCELLENCE

College of Humanities, Arts & Social Sciences



We are on Kaurna land



# FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DEAN

“Within the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences at Flinders University, we inspire ground-breaking ways of viewing the world. Encompassing teaching and research activities within languages, culture and communication, social sciences, performing and creative arts, and history and archaeology, we help to understand the world and shape it for the better.

Under Flinders University’s 2025 Agenda, our College will aim to become internationally recognised as a world-leader in research. We will align with the University’s Research Strategy to consolidate and enhance the College’s research, and will bring together high profile interdisciplinary and disciplinary research projects dedicated to major cultural, environmental, geographical, historical, and social challenges of our time.

The College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences houses four Research Sections: Performing and Creative Arts; History and Archaeology; Language, Literature and Culture; and Social Sciences. We are also home of the Tjilbruke Indigenous Studies and Research group. Our expert scholars are known for their innovative contribution to research outcomes that address some of the most pressing social problems of today and tomorrow.

Informed by the University’s core values and ethos of being student-centred and having integrity, courage, innovation, and excellence, the College’s Research Themes are: Creativity; Ethical Futures; Inequality and Posthumanities.

These themes strive to create a community of outstanding scholars engaged in world-leading research in the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences.

Endeavoring to change lives and change the world, our research will extend the boundaries of knowledge; address challenges of local, national and global significance; deliver outcomes that change lives for the better; and embed research and critical thinking as core skills for every Flinders graduate.”



**Professor Vanessa Lemm**  
*Vice-President & Executive Dean  
College of Humanities, Arts and  
Social Sciences, Flinders University*







  
**SOUTH AUSTRALIAN  
HISTORIAN  
OF THE YEAR  
-2017- -2018-**  
HISTORY COUNCIL OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

**FLINDERS/CDW STUDIOS  
RANKED #1  
IN THE WORLD FOR DIGITAL MEDIA  
-2017- -2018-**  
THE ROOKIE'S, BEST CREATIVE MEDIA AND ENTERTAINMENT  
SCHOOLS REPORT 2017

  
**NO.1 SA UNI**  
**FOR TEACHING QUALITY, LEARNING  
ENGAGEMENT AND STUDENT SUPPORT**  
QILT STUDENT EXPERIENCE SURVEY 2018, PUBLIC SA-FOUNDED  
UNIVERSITIES ONLY

  
**90% OF OUR RESEARCH  
RATED WORLD-STANDARD OR ABOVE**  
FLINDERS RATING 88.7%, ROUNDED UP TO 90%. EXCELLENCE IN  
RESEARCH FOR AUSTRALIA, 2018

  
**FLINDERS IS RANKED  
IN THE TOP 2%  
OF THE MORE THAN 10,500 UNIVERSITIES  
IN THE WORLD -2019-**  
THE WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS 2019



# RESEARCH EXCELLENCE

FLINDERS UNIVERSITY IS A GLOBALLY FOCUSSED, LOCALLY ENGAGED INSTITUTION WITH AN INTERNATIONAL REPUTATION FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AND RESEARCH.

Excelling in the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences, Flinders is a highly research active university that is finding solutions to the world's challenges and contributing to social, cultural and economic growth.

Research in the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences (CHASS) spans several areas of scholarly endeavour. In studies in Human Society, Creative Arts and Writing, Language, Communication and Culture, History and Archaeology, Philosophy and Religious Studies, the work of Flinders researchers has been independently assessed as being 'above world standard' by Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA). In the particular disciplines of History, Performing Arts and Creative Writing, Flinders researchers have been making outstanding contributions.

These research achievements are underpinned by a robust network of partnerships with organisations and industries that are an important part of Flinders' exceptional student experience.

With a vision to be internationally recognised as a world leader in research, an innovator in contemporary education, and the source of Australia's most enterprising graduates, Flinders University underpins a culture that supports students and builds better communities, inspires education that produces original thinkers, and promotes meaningful engagement that enhances our environment, economy and society.

## The College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences Linkage partners:

- Adelaide Festival Corporation
- Arts SA
- Australian Landscape Trust
- Chuulangun Aboriginal Corporation
- Festivals Adelaide
- Napranum Aboriginal Shire Council
- Macquarie University
- Queensland Museum
- State Library of South Australia
- State Theatre Company of South Australia
- The River Murray and Mallee Aboriginal Corporation
- University of South Australia



## Australian Research Council Success

The College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences has had considerable success in the Australian Research Council (ARC) Discovery Program and Discovery Early Career Awards in History and Archaeology, and Creative Arts.

This includes a 29% success rate for Discovery and a 33% success rate for DECRA. Awarded just over \$1.1 million in ARC funding from its 2018 submissions, Discovery Awards were won by History (1) and Archaeology (1), and Creative Arts won a DECRA Award, the only DECRA awarded in the country to Field of Research code 2005: Literary Studies.

This funding is in addition to existing ARC funded projects from previous ARC rounds, which in total represent \$9.2 million of funding over the period from 2013 to 2019 for projects led by CHASS researchers.

The ARC success over this period relates to:

- 8 Discovery Projects with 2 of those projects now completed;
- 4 DECRA with 2 of those projects now completed;
- 3 Linkages with one of those projects now completed;
- 3 Future Fellowships with 2 of those projects now completed;
- 1 Linkage Equipment and Infrastructure Facilities Award, now completed.

This has resulted in an impressive increasing trajectory of ARC income on an annual basis to the College.\*

*\* Note that this does not include ARC funding where other Colleges or other institutions are leading the ARC projects.*

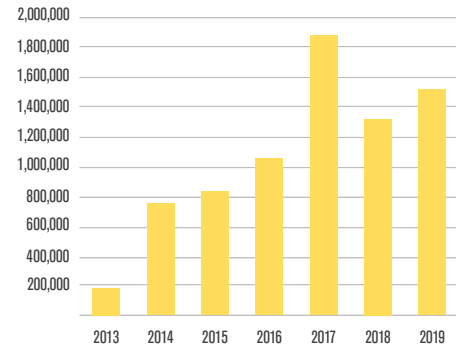




# AT A GLANCE

The College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences has seen much success in average research income since 2013.

A critical element to this above average success is the research development and support approach provided by a dedicated team of professionals in the College.



## Research in the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences aims to:

- build the reputation of Flinders University as an internationally recognised centre for world-leading research excellence in Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences;
- provide a collegial intellectual environment supporting Flinders' researchers towards the development and strengthening of research excellence;
- establish and augment innovative interdisciplinary research networks and collaborations with key academics working at Flinders, across Australia, and globally directed towards enhancing their scope to attract external funding;
- further develop links between the University, government and non-government organisations, business, industry and community;
- provide expert consultancy services with potential for social innovation and new economic ventures;
- contribute to the development of public policy and provide a recognised influential voice in national and international debates;
- enhance the potential for attracting philanthropic and government funds to help support University business, including for HDR student bursaries;
- develop the reputation and scope of Flinders as a University of choice for Indigenous research and study;
- progress the University's commitments under the Flinders Indigenous Engagement Framework (FIEF) as our standing institutional model of a Reconciliation Action Plan.





# RESEARCH SECTION

## PERFORMING AND CREATIVE ARTS

IN A CITY RENOWNED FOR ITS CREATIVE INDUSTRIES, FLINDERS UNIVERSITY HAS ENJOYED A LONG-STANDING REPUTATION IN RESEARCH RELATED TO PERFORMING AND CREATIVE ARTS.

The University has a long and well-established reputation for supporting research-led creative arts in many forms. Both in traditional research and in creative practice, Flinders academics are making significant industry and public intellectual impacts at state, national and international levels

Drama, creative writing, screen, and media form a distinct and cohesive research unit in the University, providing internationally recognised leadership and demonstrating significant industry and public intellectual activity and impact. Staff and postgraduates have included award-winning novelists, theatre and film directors, and screen and digital media practitioners. Flinders' creative writers are prolific in both genre and non-genre literary forms and their shorter fictional works are well represented in national and international anthologies. Creative artists in the Tjilbruke Indigenous Studies are an emerging area of strength and public visibility.

An innovative centrepiece of the Flinders contribution to research in the Creative Arts is the AusStage project, a national database led by Flinders for research into live performance events. AusStage is an internationally recognised model for performing arts relational databases which contributes significantly to the development of metadata standards and provides the basis for Flinders-led experiments in the study of cultural transmission and patterns of resilience in creative practice, as well as promoting international research collaborations.

The Flinders University Art Museum is a significant resource and focal point for research and practice in the visual arts. Its exhibitions have toured nationally and internationally and have had a sustained impact on both the public understanding of Indigenous art and research into its practice, particularly through the internationally recognised curatorial and critical work of Flinders' researchers.



# RESEARCHER SPOTLIGHT:

## DR TULLY BARNETT

Research Section | Performing and Creative Arts

WE ARE RAPIDLY MOVING TOWARDS A POST-PRINT WORLD. AUSTRALIA'S LITERARY AND CULTURAL RECORD IS SHIFTING FROM HARD TO SOFT COPY, BUT AT THIS MOMENT, WE DON'T FULLY UNDERSTAND THE IMPLICATIONS OF DIGITISING OUR CULTURAL PAST.

Flinders' researcher Dr Tully Barnett's ARC DECRA (2019-2022) fellowship investigates the history, impact and future of global digitisation.

Dr Barnett's project joins together a range of disciplines and perspectives to think about this large-scale and international project of digitisation beyond technical or issues or questions of access and preservation. The project seeks to answer the question: *What is it we are doing when we digitise cultural texts, objects and artefacts? And what does the digitisation of text mean for the immersive reading experience?*

Digitisation is a significant part of the future of our literary and historical record but it is currently under-theorised and not well understood. Dr Barnett's research aims to help us better understand how reading and literature will work in the post-print age. It asks which books are being digitised, who can access them and how digitisation will change the way we read.

Her research provides crucial information that helps policy makers develop an effective roadmap for the future preservation of our cultural heritage.



"This project will allow me to visit some of the world's key centres of digitisation, develop a real understanding about what it is people are doing when they undertake digitisation activities and what it means for the way we as publics use and learn from digitised sources. If you read the scanned copy of Middlemarch on Google Books does that make the experience of the book different from reading it in hard copy or the Project Gutenberg version?"

Dr Tully Barnett



## RESEARCHER SPOTLIGHT:

### DR SEAN WILLIAMS

Research Section | Performing and Creative Arts

DR SEAN WILLIAMS IS ONE OF AUSTRALIA'S MOST-AWARDED SPECULATIVE FICTION WRITERS. WITH OVER FORTY NOVELS AND ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY SHORT STORIES FOR ADULTS, YOUNG ADULTS AND CHILDREN, THE #1 NEW YORK TIMES-BESTSELLING AUTHOR AND FLINDERS LECTURER IN CREATIVE WRITING CONTINUES TO STRETCH HIS OWN CREATIVE BOUNDARIES WHILE SHARING HIS KNOWLEDGE WITH THE NEXT GENERATION OF WRITERS.

Dr Williams' creative and academic interests are incredibly broad. Apart from speculative fiction, he is also interested in non-normative states of being, including disability, post-humanity, and transgenderism. His realist novel about hearing loss, *Impossible Music* was released in July 2019. The diversity of Sean's published output saw him named "King of Chameleons" by Australian Book Review.

His research has seen him spend time at Casey Research Station in Antarctica as recipient of the Antarctic Arts Fellowship, in Canberra as ACT Eminent Writer in Residence, in the APY lands and in Ireland, where he spent twelve months searching for stories that didn't involve leprechauns, stone circles, or Vikings.



"My work has been nominated thirty times for the Aurealis Award, in the categories of Science Fiction Novel and Short Story, YA Novel, Children's Novel, Fantasy Novel, Horror Short Story, and Collection. Also, for the Ditmar Award my work has been nominated seventeen times in the categories of Best Novel, Best Novella, Best Collection, and Professional Achievement. In 1999, I received the "SA Great" Award for Literature."

Dr Sean Williams

## RESEARCHER SPOTLIGHT:

### DR AMY MATTHEWS

Research Section | Performing and Creative Arts

AN AWARD-WINNING NOVELIST, DR AMY MATTHEWS IS A SENIOR LECTURER IN CREATIVE WRITING AT FLINDERS UNIVERSITY.

Dr Matthews' research considers race and gender in colonial historical fiction, and also looks at feminism and popular romance. She's fascinated by the ways romance fiction is ignored by critics, dismissed as 'trashy' and trivial, when it is a \$1 billion industry, accounting for almost 50% of all paperbacks sold.

She examines the embedded sexism in the treatment of both the genre and the industry, by the media and traditional scholars, and seeks to find new ways to write about the genre to challenge these preconceptions.

In partnership with HarperCollins Publishers and Writers SA, and in consultation with Indigenous authors Karen Wyld and Dr Jared Thomas, Dr Matthews also designed and facilitated the inaugural First Nations Commercial Fiction Fellowship. The Fellowship seeks to address the lack of diversity in Australian commercial publishing and to provide a pathway to publication in the field of commercial fiction for emerging Indigenous authors.



"Fiction in all its glory! I write commercial fiction under the name Tess LeSue with Penguin Random House USA. Publisher's Weekly calls my work 'witty and memorable'; RT Book Reviews praised it for being 'a delightful rollercoaster ride'; Guilty Pleasures Book Reviews gave my latest book five stars and All About Romance summed it up as 'funny, romantic and appealingly entertaining, [while] unflinchingly portraying the ugly underbelly of the old west'."

Dr Amy Matthews



# RESEARCH SECTION

## HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY

WITH RESEARCH ACTIVITY GROWING STEADILY IN BOTH DISCIPLINES, HISTORIANS AND ARCHAEOLOGISTS AT FLINDERS UNIVERSITY INVESTIGATE THE RECENT AND MUCH MORE DISTANT PAST.

Australian and, specifically, South Australian history continue to be key areas of focus in one of the foundation disciplines at Flinders University, with war studies and humanitarianism joining migration history as areas of particular strength.

In international history, expanding areas of strength include research on modern Europe, with the history of war and imperialism providing a focus for several Flinders' history researchers, who hold three ARC Discovery Projects. In addition, Matthew Flinders Fellow Associate Professor Christine Winter strengthens the discipline's contribution to research in modern international history.

Indigenous, historical and maritime archaeology are core strengths for Flinders Archaeology, combined with a continuing commitment to community archaeology and cultural heritage management. Flinders researchers offer well-recognised expertise in terrestrial and maritime archaeology, covering research topics related to periods from the pre-historic through to the present. Through the work of Dr Alice Gorman, familiar to experts in the field and a wider community of science enthusiasts, the interests of Flinders Archaeology even extend into outer space.

Vital to the rising prominence of Flinders archaeology has been the heavy investment by the University in relevant infrastructure and the appointment of Dr Mike Morley, ARC Future Fellow (Archaeology). Dr Morley will explore whether environmental or human evolutionary processes drove the dispersal of early humans from Africa into Southeast Asia – and beyond into Australia, in his ARC funded project: *Early human dispersal into Southeast Asia: identifying the key environmental drivers* (2018-2022). This project will aid in giving the discipline an extremely high and expanding research capacity.



# RESEARCHER SPOTLIGHT:

## DR ALICE GORMAN

Research Section | History and Archaeology

HUMANS HAVE BEEN IN SPACE FOR MORE THAN HALF A CENTURY.



Since Yuri Gagarin's first flight in 1961, over 500 people have left earth in a wide variety of spacecraft.

But is space travel changing our behaviour? Are we adapting our tools and personal interactions to the requirements of life in space? How are different cultures interacting in a contained environment?

The International Space Station (ISS) Archaeological Project is a collaboration between Dr Alice Gorman (Flinders University) and Dr Justin Walsh (Chapman University, California).

The ISS, which orbits the Earth at 400 km altitude, has hosted over 220 visitors from 18 countries since 2001. It is a natural laboratory in which to study human interactions with technology in an enclosed microgravity environment.

Dr Gorman's ARC funded project (*How archaeology can transform living in space*, 2019-2020) is the first archaeological study of a large-scale human activity in space. The project examines how ISS crewmembers interact with each other and with equipment and spaces originating in other cultures. It looks at how crewmembers have altered the space station to suit their needs or desires, and examines the effects of microgravity on the development of society and culture.

In a pilot study, Dr Gorman and Dr Walsh looked at how ISS crewmembers had used the entrance of the Zvezda module to display photographs and images of religious icons and space heroes like Yuri Gagarin.

What no-one had noticed before was that the images changed over time, and there was a connection to debates about the relationship between science and religion back in Russia. The changing images are part of maintaining a national identity within the international society of the space station.

Dr Gorman's study of a 'microsociety in a miniworld' will help us improve human capacities for long-duration spaceflight and space settlement.

"This is the archaeology of the future – solving problems about how to live in space."

Dr Alice Gorman





## RESEARCHER SPOTLIGHT:

# ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR WENDY VAN DUIVENVOORDE

Research Section | History and Archaeology

HUMANS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN DRAWN TO THE WATERWAYS  
OF OUR PLANET.

Since our earliest days, ships and boats followed rivers and coastlines, and ventured far from shore to help spread human activity across the world.

Dr Wendy van Duivenvoorde is Associate Professor of Marine Archaeology at Flinders University. Her contributions to our understanding of the archaeological remains of ships, the material science of those remains, and their historic context has helped us better understand the ways in which aspects of seafaring have affected the developments of past societies.

Training as a nautical archaeologist has led Dr van Duivenvoorde to a research focus on wooden ships and seafaring. Her studies have seen her develop interdisciplinary skills including wood sciences and archaeometallurgy, and she continues to study the fragmentary hull remains, decorations, anchors and rigging of the ancient Mediterranean ships dating to the Classical and Hellenistic Periods as well as seventeenth and eighteenth century Dutch ships that were wrecked in Australian waters.

Dr van Duivenvoorde's research has used an interdisciplinary approach to the study of archaeological remains and analysis of cultural objects to re-create the stories of those objects, relearn ancient craftsmanship and to reconstruct technologies lost to time.

Her research has created reference and sample databases for international comparison that will help us continue to develop our understanding of the techniques, materials and thought processes used by seafaring cultures across the globe and the centuries.



"My research provides a unique window into the past lives of common people, whose history is only written through archaeology."

Associate Professor Wendy van Duivenvoorde



## RESEARCHER SPOTLIGHT:

# DR MARTIN POLKINGHORNE

Research Section | History and Archaeology

DR MARTIN POLKINGHORNE HAS LONG BEEN FASCINATED BY THE HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY OF ANGKOR CAMBODIA'S HIGHEST PROFILE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE AND ONE OF THE DOMINANT EMPIRES OF SOUTHEAST ASIA BETWEEN THE 9TH AND 15TH CENTURY.

The recipient of multiple honours, awards and grants, Dr Polkinghorne is currently Chief Investigator on two Australian Research Council (ARC) projects: *New Light on Cambodia's Dark Age: The capitals of Cambodia after Angkor*, and *Urbanism after Angkor: re-defining Collapse*.

Sometime in the 14th century Angkor began an approximate two-century decline.

The empire's collapse is associated with complex array factors including climactic variability, the pursuit of new trading opportunities, and foreign invasion.

But what did post-collapse society look like? Dr Polkinghorne, and his Cambodian and international collaborators are the first to conduct excavations on the capitals of Cambodia following Angkor's collapse, on the banks of the Mekong and Tonle Sap arterial rivers.

His research works hand-in-hand with Cambodian archaeologists, heritage authorities, and local communities – to re-write the history of Cambodia after Angkor, and to protect its heritage which is at immediate threat of urban and industrial development accompanying the rapid expansion of Phnom Penh.

"Quite rightly Angkor has been the primary focus of Cambodian and international scholars. Angkor still holds many secrets – but archaeology at Cambodia's later capitals may hold the key to understanding the Angkor's decline."

Dr Martin Polkinghorne





## RESEARCHER SPOTLIGHT: PROFESSOR PETER MONTEATH

Research Section | History and Archaeology

THE HISTORY OF WAR DURING THE 20TH CENTURY IS OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE TO AUSTRALIANS. WE SEEK TO BETTER UNDERSTAND WAR AND ITS MANY CONSEQUENCES, PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT OF OUR INVOLVEMENT IN TWO WORLD WARS.

Professor Peter Monteath's research focusses on histories of war and captivity in Australia and the wider world during the twentieth century. In South Australia, the Loveday internment camp near Barmera held over 5,000 'enemy alien' internees, many of whom have descendants living in South Australia today.

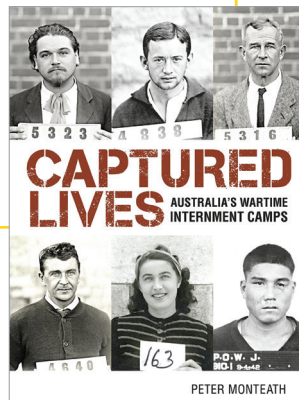
Professor Monteath's latest book, *Captured Lives*, is the result of a collaboration with the National Library of Australia. It is a history of the detention of 'enemy aliens' and of Prisoners of War in Australia during two World Wars. His previous book, *Red Professor*, is a biography of the anthropologist Fred Rose and was short-listed for the Prime Minister's Australian History Prize.

In recent times, Professor Monteath has turned his attention to exploring the many connections and intersections between German and Australian history – a topic for which South Australia offers a trove of great sources.

A Fellow of the prestigious Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, Professor Monteath continues to expand our knowledge and understanding of the intricacies of war in the 20th century.

"Having begun my career as a historian of Europe and turning my attention increasingly to my own backyard, I am constantly surprised at the wealth and depth of Australia's connections to other parts of the globe, and not just in our own times."

Professor Peter Monteath



## RESEARCHER SPOTLIGHT: ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR HEATHER BURKE

Research Section | History and Archaeology

FLINDERS ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR HEATHER BURKE UNDERSTANDS THE IMPACT OF WHITE SETTLEMENT IN AUSTRALIA BETTER THAN MOST.

Associate Professor Burke's research area – historical archaeology – looks closely at the material traces of non-Aboriginal settlement since 1788.

It's no secret that violence towards Indigenous peoples was endemic in many European settlements, and Australia was no exception. Associate Professor Burke's research focuses on the effects of frontier violence throughout the 19th and early 20th centuries.

In all parts of Australia, colonisation dispossessed Aboriginal people from their traditional lands and resources; in many cases this resulted in violent conflict and a subsequent history of enforced removal.

Associate Professor Burke's largest project is a four-year ARC Discovery Project focusing on the devastating effects of the Native Mounted Police (NMP) across Queensland from the 1850s to 1904. These detachments of Aboriginal troopers were sent out under white officers to control and often violently repress Aboriginal people in order to make areas safe for Europeans.

Even after more than a century, the effects of this violence are still being felt, and Associate Professor Burke's research is helping us better understand the continuing impact of non-Aboriginal settlement in Australia.



"We have met descendants of Aboriginal troopers, massacre survivors, white settlers and white NMP officers. All of them connect with the project, but from very different perspectives. Understanding how they think about their ancestors and their actions is often quite emotional and brings home the modern realities of the history of frontier violence".

Associate Professor Heather Burke



# RESEARCH GROUP

## TJILBRUKE INDIGENOUS STUDIES

INDIGENOUS RESEARCHERS IN THE COLLEGE WORK IN AND ACROSS MULTIPLE DISCIPLINES, BRINGING INDIGENOUS PERSPECTIVES TO AREAS RANGING FROM PHILOSOPHY THROUGH POLITICS AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES TO HISTORY, ARCHAEOLOGY AND CREATIVE ARTS.

Many of the researchers pursue questions relating to Indigenous nation building, seeking out its historical foundations and applying the knowledge gained in a contemporary setting.

A key area of interest in this research section is *The Unbound Collective*; consisting of four Aboriginal women and academics from the Mirning, Yankunytjatjara, Narungga and Yidinji/ Mbabaram communities.

Their project *Bound and Unbound: Sovereign Acts – Decolonising methodology of the lived and spoken* is a multi-stage, multi-site project by *The Unbound Collective*, enacted as a series of poetics, installation, activist works that are intergenerational transformations of old and new stories. *The Unbound Collective* explore complex ideas of being both bound and free; what we are bound to historically and, as sovereign people, what we choose to (un)bind ourselves to and from, both now and into the future.

The work involves critically responding to and performing in contested sites of power and repositories of knowledge; this work informs scholarships within University spaces and is a call and response to Indigenous peoples and communities locally, nationally and globally.



The Unbound Collective: Associate Professor Simone Ulaka Tur and Faye Rosas Blanch in performance.

# RESEARCHER SPOTLIGHT:

## DR NATALIE HARKIN

Research Group | Tjilbruke Indigenous Studies

INDIGENOUS LABOUR STORIES ARE NOT WIDELY ACKNOWLEDGED OR UNDERSTOOD AS SIGNIFICANT IN THE HISTORY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA, AND DR NATALIE HARKIN IS STRIVING TO CHANGE THAT.

Focussing on Indigenous women's labour history, particularly Aboriginal domestic service, Dr Harkin's research delves into key South Australian colonial archives in order to trace that history, and to support Aboriginal women's stories being heard and witnessed on the record.

Her ARC funded project *Resistance Poetics and Decolonising the Archive: Aboriginal Domestic Labour Stories from South Australia* (2018-2020), explores the history of Aboriginal women's domestic labour under key assimilation-based policies that targeted young girls. She is extending archival-poetics as a critical-creative methodology of resistance and transformation to support Aboriginal people share stories, through oral-history and creative responses to state-based archives.

Dr Harkin seeks to theorise those poetic interventions to the colonial archive as a key site of memory, conservation, preservation and erasure that continues to resonate as a repository of social meaning.

Dr Harkin also works with *The Unbound Collective*, exploring how archival-poetics can critically respond to colonial history and those historical key institutions and sites of power that resonate today, informed by blood-memory, haunting and grandmother-stories.



"Most Aboriginal families I know, including my own, have indentured labour or domestic service stories that are invisible and not widely acknowledged or understood as significant in larger narratives of South Australia's history."

Dr Natalie Harkin



# RESEARCH SECTION

## LANGUAGE, LITERATURE AND CULTURE

LANGUAGE, LITERATURE AND CULTURAL STUDIES AT FLINDERS HAVE AN INTERNATIONAL RANGE BUT PAY PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO THE AUSTRALIAN EXPERIENCE.

Research spans from the medieval period to the present, with an emphasis on 20th and 21st century writing.

Flinders' Life Narrative Research Group fosters national and international collaborations and has attracted a substantial postgraduate cohort.

Researchers within the areas of Language, Literature and Culture are active in a broad range of disciplinary, interdisciplinary and collaborative research, benefitting from the presence of established academics and the emergence of a dynamic group of early and mid-career researchers. Within the group and outside it, they have well-established research strengths in Life Writing, in Medieval and Early Modern Studies, and in English literature. They grapple with the literature and culture of periods of human history from the medieval through to the contemporary. Their work has international dimensions, but it also pays attention to the Australian experience.

Work in the area of Medieval research is characterised by its interdisciplinary approach. Researchers study the language, literature and other cultural artefacts of Medieval Europe to place them in their historical contexts. In doing so they draw on disciplines such as Cultural Studies, English and Literary Studies, Philosophy and Theology.

In English Literature, Flinders researchers have excelled in publications relating also to the Early Modern period, producing seminal works dealing with satire and with the

History of Emotions. Modern and contemporary English literature, too, are areas of interest and of productive overlap with researchers and postgraduate students devoted to creative writing. Next to a well-established expertise in Life Writing, Flinders researchers make substantial contributions to research in feminist criticism, to the study of comic and satirical modes of expression, and to new forms of literary communication, including digital and visual.

In recent times, Flinders has enforced its strength in Philosophy, creating a capacity to undertake research across the fields of Analytical and Continental Philosophy. Particular points of focus lie in moral and political philosophy, where research also serves to support and enhance activities in other disciplines in the College, such as Indigenous Studies, Women's Studies and Sociology.

In promoting a supportive research environment in Language, Literature and Culture, and in building links to the wider world, Flinders has invested heavily in founding, directing, and hosting the Australasian Consortium of Humanities Research Centres (ACHRC), now a recognised national peak body for Humanities research. It makes a sustained contribution to the AustLit database, most recently through the Black Words Indigenous data-set.

# RESEARCHER SPOTLIGHT:

## PROFESSOR KATE DOUGLAS

Research Section | Language, Literature and Culture

PROFESSOR KATE DOUGLAS' RESEARCH REVOLVES AROUND THE WAYS IN WHICH YOUNG PEOPLE TELL STORIES ABOUT THEIR LIVES EVERY DAY AND THE TECHNOLOGIES THEY USE TO TELL THESE STORIES.

Professor Douglas focusses on the positive impact of life narrative texts and practices, and investigates the ways in which the combined vulnerabilities and strengths of young people influences their development and the impact they have on the world around them.

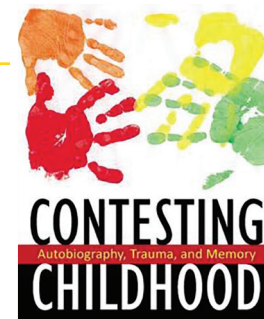
Professor Douglas' most recent book, *Life Narratives and Youth Culture: Representation, Agency and Participation* (with Anna Poletti, Utrecht) explores examples of self-representation by young people, including letters and diaries of girl activists, child soldier memoirs, zines, and social media texts.

Her research has found that despite the negative public and media attention that it often attracts, self-representation more often has empowering effects on young people's lives.

Examining and appreciating the ways in which young people choose to tell the stories of their lives offers us the chance to better understand the issues and experiences they face as they grow.

"Life narratives tell us how young people experience their world and communicate their place within it."

Professor Kate Douglas





# RESEARCH SECTION

## SOCIAL SCIENCES

LOCALLY GROUNDED AND INTERNATIONALLY CONNECTED, FLINDERS UNIVERSITY HAS AN INTERNATIONAL REPUTATION FOR STUDIES IN HUMAN SOCIETY RESEARCH.

Globally, research in Social Sciences canvasses themes such as international development, environmental governance, human rights and inequality. Locally and nationally, Flinders scholars address such pressing issues as domestic violence, abortion reform, social division and environmental degradation. The College has long-standing strengths in sociology, geography, demography, women's and gender studies.

An area of high standing at Flinders is Criminology, where it has acknowledged strengths in serious and organised (including cyber) crime, pathways into and desistance from crime, and public protection and corrections. Matthew Flinders Distinguished Professor Sharyn Roach Anleu conducts groundbreaking, ARC-supported research in the field of the sociology of law. In collaboration with Emerita Professor Kathy Mack, she has conducted empirical research on guilty pleas in the Australian criminal justice system, engaged in national multi-year research on the Australian judiciary and their courts through their Judicial Research Project, and examined emotion and emotional expression in judicial performance.

Sociologists at Flinders address issues pertaining to the increasing complexity of everyday lives. They extend theoretical and applied knowledge across the themes of non-normative constructions of relationships, gender and sexuality, the sociology of work and political sociology.

Human Geography and Development Studies, too, are Social Science disciplines in which Flinders continues to contribute ground-breaking research. Associate Professor Uday Saikia's research is having a demonstrable impact in the developing world. He has a long interest in research related to population dynamics, human wellbeing and sustainable development, successfully completing a number of international research projects in the Asia and the Pacific region which includes Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste and India. The "Wellbeing Index", the most innovative part of his research, has been the core focus of a number of recent Human Development Reports published by the United Nations. Most recently he was the Lead Author and Team Leader of a project which led to the production of the UN National Human Development Report, Timor-Leste.



# RESEARCHER SPOTLIGHT:

## ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR KRISTIN NATALIER

Research Section | Social Sciences

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR KRISTIN NATALIER'S RESEARCH AIMS TO IMPROVE UNDERSTANDING OF, AND EMPOWER, THOSE WHO FACE MULTIPLE CHALLENGES FOLLOWING FAMILY TRANSITIONS – ESPECIALLY SEPARATED MOTHERS AND THEIR CHILDREN.

Associate Professor Natalier's research examines the ways public policy shapes the lives of women and children in separated families, looks at the resilience and tenacity of women as they try to build a better life for themselves and their children, and has been critical to generating a new paradigm in Australian post-separation research.

Since its inception in the mid-1980s, Australian research treated child support as a purely financial transfer of resources between parents. Professor Natalier's research was the first to question this approach, and the first in Australia to argue that we need to look at child support as both a financial resource and as a way people express their identities and emotions in post-separation relationships. The meaning as well as the amount of money shapes people's child support behaviours.

Professor Natalier's research has been used by advocacy groups including the National Council of Single Mothers and their Children, the Women's Information and Referral Exchange (WIRE) and Good Shepherd Research and Advocacy (on micro-aggressions).

She has also worked with the National Council of Single Mothers and their Children to design surveys on single mothers' experiences of private child support arrangements, and the impact of domestic violence on single mothers' perspectives of their financial futures.

"I am particularly pleased that my research is used by advocacy groups to further their agenda. I see these collaborations and knowledge transfer as important ways to increase the impact and reach of research into the community."

Associate Professor Kristin Natalier





# RESEARCH THEME

## CREATIVITY

THE POWER OF CRITICAL THOUGHT AND CREATIVE ARTS PRACTICE TO TRANSFORM SOCIETY IS AT THE HEART OF ALL RESEARCH IN THIS THEME.

Research in Creativity engages in philosophical, literary and artistic inquiry that advances the public value of imagination and creativity, while also investigating the ways in which creative and critical thought and practice play a vital role in social critique and transformation.

Researchers in this theme interrogate the current impoverished conceptualisation of public value, goods and reason, examine how society might come to a better estimation of the role played by philosophy, culture and the creative arts in evaluations of public worth. We seek innovative and practical solutions to the problem of measuring and communicating the intrinsic value of nature, art, and other public goods to inform policy and debate.

Our researchers mobilise a transdisciplinary collection of nationally and internationally respected artists and scholars, and produce high-impact traditional and non-traditional research outcomes. Participating researchers collaborate in this interdisciplinary cluster to relate creative practices to research methodologies and connect practicing artists to each other and to industry partners, to construct a creative, critical and socially transformative dialogue with the world.

We focus on innovative and contemporary arts practices from Asia, and support deepening Australian engagement with Asia in the performing and creative arts. As such, this research theme facilitates international cultural exchanges enabling the College to operate as an innovative laboratory for practice-led research in the performing and creative arts, a field in which Australia is emerging as an international leader in the Asia-Pacific.



# RESEARCHER SPOTLIGHT:

## DR TULLY BARNETT, PROFESSOR ROBERT PHIDDIAN

Research Theme | Creativity

HOW DO WE VALUE CULTURE?

Valuing arts and culture cannot be limited to the techniques for gathering econometric evidence. But how do we move beyond counting ticket sales and hotel occupancy rates, to gain a truer understanding of the value of artistic and cultural artefacts, institutions, and events to Australian society?

Flinders' ARC Linkage project *Laboratory Adelaide: Meaningfully Reporting the Value of Culture* will help develop an approach for communicating value of the arts beyond its dollar value and social spill-over effects.

Co-chief investigators, Professor Robert Phiddian and Dr Tully Barnett, along with Professors Richard Maltby and Julian Meyrick and industry partners Arts South Australia and Festivals Adelaide, are investigating how the value of cultural organisations and activities can be more effectively communicated in official reporting processes.

The project aims to change for the better the way Australia determines the value of its cultural activities by creating new on-line reporting processes, principles and forms for funding agencies, transforming the way artists and cultural organisations communicate what they do to governments, and how governments understand culture's value.

Professors Phiddian and Barnett along with co-author Meyrick recently published *What Matters? Talking Value in Australian Culture* through Monash University Publishing.

The book has gone to its second reprinting and was mentioned by the incoming CEO of the Australia Council for the Arts as helping to frame the current issues in the arts sector today.



"Adelaide's thriving cultural sector has a long and significant history as well as a strong and vibrant future. We are working with the sector to find new ways of understanding and communicating the value of the work of artists and cultural organisations going beyond economic impact, tourism and audience numbers. The more we restrict our determinants of value to econometrics, which are easier to collect, the more we rob the sector and future generations of important artwork and cultural experiences."

Dr Tully Barnett



# RESEARCH THEME

## ETHICAL FUTURES AUSTRALIA

ETHICAL FUTURES AUSTRALIA IS AN INTER-DISCIPLINARY RESEARCH COLLABORATION AND NETWORK DESIGNED TO EXPLORE ETHICAL THOUGHT AND PRACTICE IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LIFE.

Ethical Futures Australia commits to examining past, present and future notions and enactments of ethical relating. With reference to Australia the initiative recognises that there are prevailing tensions that require us to reframe the way we look at the world and ourselves. There is a great need to apply this to everyday life in Australia, rethinking the inspirations that will encourage, inform and sustain ethical futures and visions of what the nation is and what it might become.

This research initiative will thrive in the space of relational and interwoven experience, engaging committedly with how we shape respectful futures for Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians, how we engage with new forms of storytelling for reconciliatory and intercultural purposes, how we understand changing ethnic citizenry, and how Australia participates in global conversations of human rights, and conflict.

### TACKLING BIG CHALLENGES WITH BIG IDEAS

The Ethical Futures Initiative will launch a campaign of inquiry around a series of research challenges.

#### 1. Reckoning Australia

This challenge considers the ways in which Australian stories are told and is designed to creatively engage with storytelling in the fullest sense across disciplines.

#### 2. Healing nations

This challenge commits to better understanding how nations address their fraught histories and how they move into productive futures.

#### 3. Changing ethnic citizenry

This challenge will return our focus to the big questions, what does it mean to be Australian? How does Australia fit within a global conversation of human rights, migration and displacement?

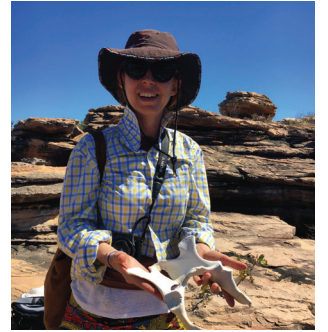


# RESEARCHER SPOTLIGHT:

## PROFESSOR AMANDA KEARNEY

Research Theme | Ethical Futures Australia

PROFESSOR AMANDA KEARNEY IS AN AUSTRALIAN ANTHROPOLOGIST WHOSE CAREER HAS BEEN DISTINGUISHED BY A NEAR 20-YEAR COMMITMENT TO ETHNOGRAPHIC FIELDWORK AND COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH WITH ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES IN NORTHERN AUSTRALIA AND NEW SOUTH WALES.



Professor Kearney's contributions to cultural geography, archaeology, heritage and ethnic studies are leading discussion on the legacy of Australia's settler colonial past and the diverse experiences of ethnic citizenry in Australia today.

Alongside Associate Professor Liam Brady and Professor John Bradley, her research, examines contemporary Indigenous relationships to rock art, focusing on the relationships Aboriginal people from the SW Gulf of Carpentaria have with one of the most visual aspects of their archaeological heritage.

Professor Kearney, with Professor Bradley, is also the recipient of an ARC Discovery Grant investigating the impacts and future of land rights and land restitution, asking: *what effect have Aboriginal land rights had on Aboriginal lives? And what are the implications of land rights for Indigenous, national and ecological futures?*

Through collaboration, Professor Kearney strives to produce research and academic outputs that speak with and from the perspectives of her collaborators, rather than 'about' people's lives.



"My research seeks to 'reframe the way we look at Australia' and locate Indigenous knowledges and experiences centrally within this discussion. Research and collaboration have the power to prompt a local and national campaign of understanding positionality and distinct life experiences, harnessing these for a richer outcome; namely a wider appreciation of Australian cultural life and its future challenges and aspirations."

Professor Amanda Kearney



# RESEARCH THEME

## INEQUALITY

THE COLLEGE CONDUCTS HIGH IMPACT RESEARCH INTO GLOBAL LEGACIES AND PROBLEMS OF HUMAN CONFLICT AND ASSOCIATED CHALLENGES UNDERSTOOD FROM CULTURAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, GEOGRAPHIC, HISTORICAL, AND SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES.

This research theme takes an interdisciplinary approach to inequality as a central issue in all human societies across time and place. Inequality takes many forms and needs to be addressed both through debates on contemporary social issues and by providing long-term historical perspectives on their genesis.

A large focus of this theme is gender inequality, conducted through the College's association with the Gender Consortium. The Gender Consortium is a group of associates who have expertise in gender and development issues. The dynamic team has a range of skills including undertaking applied policy research on gender equity, conceptualising and delivering gender analysis and gender mainstreaming leadership programs, gender responsive policy development monitoring and evaluation. The staff and associates of the Gender Consortium have worked in Australia, Cambodia, China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Mongolia, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Vietnam.

Our researchers in this theme examine how war and conflict interact to shape humanitarian development strategies and policies that respond to the problem of inequality. Research focuses on the long history of the global movement of peoples in response to conflict and deprivation with a focus on immigration, between state authorities and migrants and between migrant groups and their new environments.

Researchers investigate the entangled frontiers of colonial contact as complex sources of the continuing inequalities stemming from legacies of historical injustice associated with imperialism and colonialism, and seek to explain the ways in which cultural heritage is privileged as a core marker for understanding individual and collective identity within human societies.

Complex intersections are explored and our researchers look to promote new understandings of gendered violence as a pervasive social problem underpinning structures of inequality. Researchers trace the connections between gendered 'personal' lives and broader social processes, through a focus on the lived experience of and institutional responses to sexuality, reproductive justice, and the dynamics of familial and other intimate relationships. Violence in intimate relationships is a site of intense debate and policy activity across the world.



# RESEARCHER SPOTLIGHT:

## PROFESSOR MELANIE OPPENHEIMER

Research Theme | Inequality

VOLUNTARY AND NON-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS HAVE HAD A MAJOR INFLUENCE ON WORLD HISTORY.

In Australia, our World War One and World War Two volunteers helped shape our national identity. Peacetime volunteers involved in organisations like Australian Red Cross and Meals On Wheels continue to play critical roles in our society.

Professor Melanie Oppenheimer's research interests include the role of voluntary organisations and patriotic funds in times of peace and war; the history of volunteering and voluntary action; and gender and imperialism.

Her research focusses on elements of inequality around war, conflict and humanitarian responses of global institutions such as the Red Cross Movement as well as historicising innovative social welfare reforms in Australian history. She examines voluntary action and civil society, volunteering and unpaid labour from both historical and contemporary perspectives.

Professor Oppenheimer's ARC funded projects include soldier settlement schemes post WWI; a history of the 1970s Australian Assistance Plan; Meals On Wheels; and sustaining volunteering in Australia. She is the author of a centenary history of Australian Red Cross, *The Power of Humanity. 100 Years of Australian Red Cross* published by HarperCollins. Her book, co-authored with Bruce Scates, *The Last Battle: Soldier Settlement in Australia, 1916-1939* was published by Cambridge University Press in 2016.



"I have a long-term commitment and passion to undertaking outstanding research on the voluntary sector, voluntary action and civil society across time and place."

Professor Melanie Oppenheimer

# RESEARCH THEME

## POSTHUMANITIES

THE UNPRECEDENTED PACE OF CHANGE AND DISRUPTION IN THE ORGANISATION OF HUMAN SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC LIFE OVER RECENT DECADES HAS BEEN DRIVEN BY RAPID ADVANCES IN DIGITALISATION, ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) AND BIO-TECHNOLOGICAL CAPABILITY.

These advances have the potential to liberate human activity from its natural and historical constraints, but also potentially threaten the future flourishing of human and planetary life as fragile ecosystems struggle to cope with massive technological intervention.

The governance of biological life known as biopolitics as much as the idea of the Anthropocene are at the forefront of much research in the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences today, challenging us to acknowledge our responsibility as stewards of the environment that sustains all life on Earth, and to understand how our ideas and practices of human scope and purpose affect our future decisions and capabilities.

Researchers in this theme explore the cultural and linguistic, geographical and environmental, ethical and philosophical, social and political implications of the posthuman subject, understood in relational terms as being constituted interactively through practices of encounter and engagement. The research on posthuman identity and relationality seeks to illuminate power-imbalances in encounters, interrogate negotiations of difference and understand constructions of 'otherness'.

This research sheds new light on processes and events of environmental change by providing a range of insights into the repercussions of climate and environmental change on people and societies. These enriched understandings of human adaptations to anthropogenic and environmental

changes and their consequences contribute to current debates about sustainable resources, environmental change and the role of climate variability in economic change, technological innovation and the evolution of human behaviours.

We bring to bear posthumanist perspectives upon questions of science and technology, interculturality and digitality, and the role they play in shaping creative cultures, flourishing citizens and sustainable societies. These perspectives inform our collaboration with citizen organisations, governments and businesses engaged in imagining new ways of connecting, producing and living in holistic ecosystems that nourish well-being, resilience and adaptability in ways that ensure inclusive, democratic and environmentally aware futures for all.



# RESEARCHER SPOTLIGHT:

## PROFESSOR VANESSA LEMM

Research Theme | Posthumanities

THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL CRISIS URGES US TO RETHINK OUR DEPENDENCY ON OTHER FORMS OF LIFE AND RAISES THE QUESTION OF HOW WE CAN BUILD A SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY OF LIFE THAT INCLUDES ANIMAL, PLANT AND OTHER FORMS OF ORGANIC AND NON-ORGANIC LIFE.

Professor Vanessa Lemm's research focuses on the philosophy of Friedrich Nietzsche, biopolitics and contemporary political philosophy. Her research interests include theories of community and justice, philosophical anthropology and posthumanism.

In Professor Lemm's most recent work, she investigates the relevance of Friedrich Nietzsche's thinking about human nature for contemporary debates in biopolitics and posthumanism. Nietzsche coins the enigmatic term 'homo natura' to capture his understanding of the human being as a creature of nature and tasks philosophy with the re-naturalisation of humanity. Her book *Homo Natura: Nietzsche, Philosophical Anthropology and Biopolitics* (Edinburgh University Press, 2020) offers an original reading of homo natura that brings back the ancient Greek idea of nature and sexuality as creative chaos and of the philosophical life as outspoken and embodied truth, perhaps best exemplified by the cynics' embrace of social and cultural transformation. It argues that nature needs to be embraced as it withholds the secret of future human cultural and social transformation.

Professor Lemm is the author of *Nietzsche's Animal Philosophy: Culture, Politics and the Animality of the Human Being*, and editor of five books on Nietzsche, Foucault and Hegel. She is the editor of the flagship

journal, *Nietzsche-Studien* (De Gruyter) and co-founder of biopolitica.org, an international research network on biopolitics.



"Nietzsche challenges us to rethink what it means to be human. He asks how can we think the de-humanised human being when the human being is the de-animalised animal."

Professor Vanessa Lemm.



# STUDENT RESEARCH

Higher Degree Research | College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences

IN THE COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES, ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES, WE TREAT HIGHER DEGREE RESEARCH AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO GUIDE OUR STUDENTS TO THE PINNACLES OF THEIR FIELDS.

More than one hundred and fifty Higher Degree Research students are currently working with inspirational and challenging supervisors to produce the best research they can.

Our supervisors are active researchers who have pushed the boundaries of knowledge in their area of expertise ranging from Archaeology, Drama and Linguistics to Theology, Creative Writing and Sociology. Their aim is to help students become critically minded researchers who will break new ground to understand our world better and address future opportunities and challenges.

Higher Degree Research students may grapple with complex societal problems – such as inequality, climate change and violence - and extract new insights from analysing our past or developing solutions for the future.

Or they might find new ways to tap into their own and other people's potential for creativity, self-expression and cultural production.

Our research students may collaborate across disciplines in the College or work with colleagues in other Colleges including Public Health, Law, and Natural Sciences.

Some of our budding researchers aspire to academic careers of research and teaching future generations; others will bring their research skills to work in governance or in cultural industries; or become thought leaders and change agents.

Whatever their career pathway, the College aims to provide an encouraging and inspiring environment for intellectual engagement. Together with the University's Office of Graduate Research we offer a rich and diverse skills and professional development program so that our research students can excel.



# RESEARCHER SPOTLIGHT: FELIX PIEDADE, INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Higher Degree Research | College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences

IN 2002, TIMOR-LESTE BECAME ASIA'S NEWEST NATION, AND THE FIRST SOVEREIGN NATION OF THE 21ST CENTURY. OPPORTUNITIES FOR NEW UNDERSTANDINGS AND INNOVATIONS IN TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AROSE AS THE COUNTRY EMERGED INTO NEW RELATIONSHIPS WITHIN SOUTH-EAST ASIA AND THE BROADER INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY.

Flinders' PhD student, Felix Piedade looked at the role of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) on trade and technology innovation in Southeast Asia with particular reference to Timor-Leste.

Felix's PhD candidature was under an Australian Award Scholarship, and his thesis examined how Timor-Leste can learn from its neighbouring countries on how to better utilise FDI, and what factors would be crucial to formulate and implement a successful FDI related to trade policy.

His research has shown that Timor-Leste has the potential to progress towards achieving the status of a developed nation and determined that increase in foreign direct investment is crucial to help the country achieve its potential.

However, promotion of local products and ensuring the transfer of knowledge through FDI to locals in Timor-Leste will be crucial for this new country to fully achieve its success.



"A progressive Timor-Leste requires a stronger economy and Foreign Direct Investment has the potential to help the nation building process for a prosperous future of this newest nation in Asia."

Felix Piedade, PhD



# RESEARCHER SPOTLIGHT:

## JACINTA KOOLMATRIE, INDIGENOUS ARCHAEOLOGY

Higher Degree Research | College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences

FLINDERS ARCHAEOLOGY MASTERS STUDENT JACINTA KOOLMATRIE HAS ACHIEVED GREAT ACADEMIC SUCCESS. SHE HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN AN AURORA INTERNSHIP TRAVELLING TO THE UK AND US, AND IS THE WINNER OF THE 2016 FLINDERS UNIVERSITY KEN WANGANEEN MEDAL FOR THE UNIVERSITY'S MOST OUTSTANDING INDIGENOUS STUDENT.

Recently, Jacinta's ongoing interest in Indigenous Archaeology and heritage led to her being awarded the Darrell West Prize for her thesis at the Australian Archaeology Association and New Zealand Archaeology Association conference in Auckland.

Her masters research focussed on the importance of Indigenous knowledge in archaeological research, aiming to determine if archaeological theories were relevant to Adnyamathanha understandings of yura malka (rock art) through privileging Adnyamathanha knowledge.

Jacinta chose to look at Malkai, a yura malka place located on Adnyamathanha country in the Flinders Ranges.

As an Adnyamathanha person, she had the ability to ensure that she was incorporating a variety of perspectives in the understanding of this place. This demonstrated that archaeological research cannot be detached from the people who are connected to the places that are being discussed.

There were many stories and understandings about Malkai that emerged in discussions with Elders that would not have been known without their input.

Jacinta's thesis was supported by the Australian Association of Consulting Archaeologists Inc. through their student fund, alongside support from the Australian Archaeological Association.



"Respect of Land, Elders and ancestors were key aspects in my research and will be throughout all my future endeavours."  
Jacinta Koolmatrrie







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AGE UNIVERSITIES RANKING

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TEACHER RATIO, LEARNING RESOURCES,  
AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

THE GOOD UNIVERSITY GUIDE 2019



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