Dear Colleagues,

Please find below news from the Research and Research Training portfolio, including notable research, performance and exhibition achievements from colleagues.

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**Research Profile**

**Dr Jessica Gildersleeve, English Literature**

Dr Jessica Gildersleeve is Senior Lecturer in English Literature and the School Coordinator (Students) in the School of Arts and Communication. Her research examines the intersections between literature, ethics and emotions, and she is particularly interested in the ways in which we narrativise trauma, shame, guilt, and anxiety. Much of her research, including her monograph, *Elizabeth Bowen and the Writing of Trauma: The Ethics of Survival* (2014), and the forthcoming collection, *Elizabeth Bowen: Innovation, Experiment, and Literary Reputation* (with Patricia Juliana Smith), has addressed these philosophical concerns in the context of early twentieth-century British women’s writing, particularly wartime writing. Essays on Rosamond Lehmann, Jean Rhys, Rose Macaulay, Agatha Christie, Katherine Mansfield and the historical novels of Sarah Waters and Pat Barker, as well as another forthcoming collection, *Contemporary War and Representation: Outsider Perspectives on the Wars on Terror* (with Richard Gehrmann), form part of this research satellite. More recently, however, Jessica has applied her unique psychoanalytic and deconstructive approach to a study of Australian literature, and has recently completed a second monograph on the work of Christos Tsiolkas, currently titled *The Utopian Vision*, as well as several essays on trauma in Australian writing (and especially Queensland women’s writing) from the Second World War on. Jessica brings these research interests to her involvement with several societies and journals, and is co-editor of the *Queensland Review*, membership secretary of the Australasian Modernist Studies Network, and marketing secretary of the Katherine Mansfield Society. She is also currently acting as guest assistant editor for the interdisciplinary feminist journal,
Hecate, and developing the Australian chapter of the Contemporary Women’s Writing Association. In 2016, Jessica is collaborating with Associate Professor Laurie Johnson on a study of the history of trauma literature, developing her work on Tsiolkas into a broader study of emotion in contemporary Australian literature, and designing a project which will examine the ways in which reading groups impact community behaviours.

Jessica’s recent publications include:


Gildersleeve, Jessica. "We're all strangers": Post-War Anxiety in Agatha Christie’s The Mouse-trap.' Clues 32.2 (2014): 115-23.


Research Strategy Initiative and ERA2015

The University’s Research Division has issued a call for submissions for the Research Strategy Initiative, as per the email from from the DVC Research and Innovation, Professor Mark Harvey (sent 19th January).

This initiative seeks to “provide the platform for Research Program Teams (RPTs) to report on their research achievements to date and articulate their research strategies for the future”. The Strategy represents an important opportunity for teams within our School to codify their research agendas.

As per the email sent to colleagues from me on 21st January, could I urge teams to peruse the guidelines for this initiative and attend the Q and A session scheduled for 3rd February (Toowoomba) and 4th February (Springfield and Ipswich). I also encourage colleagues to contact me should further details be required.

This initiative comes on the heels of the University’s ERA2015 results. Although our record as recognised researchers is strengthening with the issuing of a ‘3’ rank in FoR 21 History and Archaeology, we will need to consolidate our efforts in other areas (particularly FoR 16, 19 and 20). The opportunity presented by the Research Strategy Initiative to identify and progress a research agenda is in this regard significant and I encourage colleagues to take full advantage of it.

Professional Association Executive Appointments

Colleagues in the School of Arts and Communication have recently assumed roles in two significant professional associations.
Associate Professor Lara Lamb has commenced a term as President of the Australian Archaeological Association, the foremost professional association for Archaeologists in Australia.

Dr Kelly McWilliam has accepted the Presidency of the Cultural Studies Association of Australasia, the key professional association for cultural studies throughout Australia and Aotearoa/New Zealand. Kelly is joined by Dr Jess Carniel as Secretary of the association.

The School of Arts and Communication has a strong presence in both associations, with several colleagues in the School currently maintaining membership in each. This level of representation highlights the active role School colleagues have in their respective discipline areas and capacity for leadership in shaping these disciplines.

Congratulations to Lara, Kelly and Jess.

Scholarly Impact

Dr Dallas Baker’s reputation in the field of creative writing and creative practice methodology has been recognised in a recent bibliography of key works produced by the Australian Screen Production Education and Research Association, convened at the University of Technology Sydney.

Two of Dr Baker’s publications have been cited in this reference bibliography:


To be listed in such a significant bibliography is indicative of the quality of Dallas’ work in creative practice scholarship, and the School’s reputation in Creative Writing.

Congratulations Dallas.

Publication News
As Coordinator Research and Research Training, I am particularly interested in publicising research, exhibition and performance successes.

As such, I call on colleagues to inform me of publication, exhibition and performance outcomes in all forms. Apart from providing an avenue for the collegial recognition and celebration of the work of our School, I also hope that we might become more familiar with the scholarly interests we are each engaged in pursuing.

Two notable publications produced by colleagues in the School have received accolades recently:

**Dr Daniel Hourigan’s** *Law and Enjoyment: Power, Pleasure and Psychoanalysis* (Routlegde) was shortlisted for the Penny Pether Prize for Scholarship in Law, Literature and the Humanities. This award recognises leading works that extend scholarship in law Scholarship and that “attempt to think through the relations among subject formation, language, and law.”

To be shortlisted for such a prominent award is a noteworthy achievement and an indication of the reception *Law and Enjoyment* is receiving.

**Dr Libby Connor’s** *Warrior: A legendary leader’s dramatic life and violent death on the colonial frontier* (Allen and Unwin) was shortlisted for an Australian Association of Authors Asher Award. The award is offered biennially to a female author and is sponsored by the Australia Council for the Arts. This is fitting recognition for Libby’s ground-breaking work.

Congratulations Daniel and Libby.

Until next time,

Andrew