News

Research funding success for Globalism Institute

Researchers at the Globalism Institute have been awarded more than $330,000 in grants in the latest Australian Research Council funding round.

Professor Paul James, Professor Manfred Steger and Peter Phipps were successful with their ARC Linkage Grant proposal, ‘Globalizing Indigeneity: Indigenous Cultural Festivals and Wellbeing in Australia and the Asia-Pacific’. They were successful with their ARC Discovery Grant proposal, ‘Irregular Migrants and Political Belonging in Global Cities’.

‘Globalizing Indigeneity: Indigenous Cultural Festivals and Wellbeing in Australia and the Asia-Pacific’ is a three-year project which will investigate cultural festivals as one of the few consistently positive spaces for indigenous communities to assert a more constructive view of themselves both intergenerationally, and as part of their struggle for respect as distinct cultures in the broader national community.

‘Irregular Migrants and Political Belonging in Global Cities’ is a three-year project which will investigate impacts of irregular migration in three cities in the Asia-Pacific region, and will draw on regional and Australian experiences of irregular migration to inform policy and political questions on these prominent issues of citizenship, migration and globalization.

2008 Handbury Fellowships awarded by RMIT

The Helen and Geoff Handbury Fellowship will award up to $40,000 this year to research projects improving the quality of life in western Victoria.

RMIT University has announced the grants and invited members of the community and researchers to become involved in the research.

This year Fellowships have been awarded to:

- Jeanette Pritchard of Baimbridge College, Hamilton, in partnership with the RMIT Education Department, for ‘Standing Tall School Based Mentoring Program’—a project assessing the effectiveness of a mentoring program, which helps to enhance outcomes for young people.

- Heinz de Chelard of Hamilton, in partnership with the School of Economics, Finance and Marketing and the School of Civil, Environmental and Chemical Engineering for ‘A Feasibility Study for the establishment of a Biodiesel Production Facility in the Western districts of Victoria’.

- Robert Cadden, on behalf of the Aurora Vehicle Association, Western Victoria region, for ‘Southern Aurora Solar car 2007’.

- Chris Cole, in partnerships with Hamilton Institute of Rural Learning (HIRL), Friends of Eastern barred bandicoot and Parklands Committee, for ‘HIRL — The Next Steps’—a project that will document and distribute the history of HIRL over the past twenty five years.

This year’s selection panel included RMIT Pro Vice-Chancellor Alan Cumming Councillor Coralie Coulson, Southern Grampians Shire Council, and Professor Paul James and Dr Yaso Nadarajah of the Globalism Institute.

Dr Nadarajah said the program reached those who might otherwise miss out on an opportunity to develop their innovative ideas and projects. The Fellowship, made possible with the support of Helen and Geoff Handbury, is now supported by the federal Department of Education, Science and Training under its Collaboration and Structural Reform Fund.
RMIT

DSC Portfolio ARC Linkage and Discovery Seminar

Dr Michael Green, member ARC College of Experts Humanities and Creative Arts Panel, and Head of Department Indigenous Cultures, Museum Victoria, will speak about the ARC Linkage and Discovery programs from the viewpoint of a College of Experts member, particularly addressing the assessment process and what makes a successful proposal.

At the same session Professor Di Siemon, School of Education, will present a session on preparing ARC Linkage Budgets. Linkage Budgets, with ARC funding and Collaborating Organisation(s) funding, can be very intricate and challenging. Di has a strong track record in achieving funding for large projects in Education from the ARC Social Behavioural and Economics panel.

Thursday 11 October
3.30 - 5.00 pm
RMIT Research Lounge, Building 28 Level 5 (opposite Library)
RSVP: Lorraine Bridger, email lorraine.bridger@rmit.edu.au

‘Learning from the Stuff Ups’

Global Sustainability at RMIT University invites you to a half-day workshop with visiting Risk Management and Communication Specialist, Dr Ray Kemp.

This workshop will explore how we in Australia can learn from public policy and business implementation ‘stuff ups’ in the UK, Europe and the US, drawing upon the expertise and experience of one of Europe’s leading specialists in risk and communication management, with broad experience across a range of industries and contentious issues.

Friday 19 October
9.30 am - 2.00 pm
State Library of Victoria Conference Centre, Entry 3, La Trobe St, Melbourne
Registration fee (by 10 October): $165 (includes morning tea and lunch)
Registration form: www.global.rmit.edu.au/

Qualitative computing: just another tool, or a methodological revolution?

Two decades after the first software was developed for qualitative research, its impacts are both substantial and controversial. This paper argues the most important potential of qualitative computing has been missed in the messy debate.

Drawing on her experiences as software developer, research practitioner, methodologist and teacher, Adjunct Professor Lyn Richards explores the implications of software for pursuit in qualitative research of validity, reliability and rigor.

Tuesday 23 October
RSVP and details: Carmel Denning, email carmel.denning@rmit.edu.au
Latin America and Asia International Solidarity Forum

Discussion and debate have been revived among whole communities on issues such as workers' control and management; indigenous autonomy and self-determination; building trade unions and social movements; electoral campaigning and counter-power strategies. Many movements and organisations are winning strengthening people’s participation, strengthening their communities, developing people's power and inspiring a new generation of political activists.

The main conference aims are:
To facilitate the sharing of ideas and experiences, and generate political discussions between Latin American, Asia-Pacific and Australian social movements, political organizations and individual activists, with the aim of helping create spaces for global co-ordination and campaigning, as well as strengthen mutual ties; and
To build support for and solidarity with grassroots movements and political organizations fighting neo-liberalism and resisting the plunder of natural resources by transnationals and governments.

Thursday 11 to Sunday 14 October
Melbourne Trades Hall and RMIT University
Registration fee: Four days $80 full/$40 unwaged; Two days $50/$25, One day/session $30/$15
More information and registration: info@solidarityforum2007.org
Website: www.solidarityforum2007.org

Growingrowing Heide 2007

Now in its fifth year, Growingrowing Heide returns for Heide's annual celebration of spring with a season of garden talks and events. This year the themes of garden design, drought management and growing Australian plants come to the fore with talks by garden specialists Andrew Laidlaw, Diana Snape and Nick Harrison, Heide's Head Gardener. Tours will also be led by Heide's Volunteer Guides, exploring aspects of the garden's history and Heide's exquisite roses.

Creating Beautiful Spaces

Breakfast and tour of Heide's gardens with Andrew Laidlaw, Landscape Architect, Melbourne's Royal Botanical Gardens and 774 ABC Melbourne gardening commentator.

Saturday 13 October
Tickets: Adult $35; Member/Concession $30, includes breakfast and sparkling wine

Pick and eat garden and culinary tour

Pick ingredients from the Kitchen Garden with Nick Harrison, Heide Head Gardner, to enjoy in a light lunch at Heide Café.

Wednesday 17 October
Tickets: Adult $35; Member/Concession $30, includes lunch and sparkling wine

Designing with Australian plants

A talk by Diana Snape, Australian plant specialist and author of The Australian Garden: Designing with Australian Plants.

Saturday 20 October
Tickets: Adult $25; Member/Concession $20, includes sparkling wine

Heide Museum of Modern Art, 7 Templestowe Road, Bulleen, Victoria
Bookings and information: Telephone 03 9850 1500; email info@heide.com.au
Website: www.heide.com.au

Professional development

RMIT's Open Program

Support your professional development and choose from a range of calendared workshops available through the RMIT Open Program. Delivered by RMIT experts and industry professionals, Open Program workshops have been specifically designed to support professional development within the following themes:

- Learning and Teaching
- Research and Innovation
- Managing in the Workplace
- Working in Our Environment
- Supporting a Safe Environment
- TAFE

For more information: email professional.development@rmit.edu.au
Website: www.rmit.edu.au/pc/openprogram

RSH 2009 Visiting Scholars Program

The Research School of Humanities has been established by the Australian National University in 2007 by amalgamating four key Centres of the University—the renowned Humanities Research Centre, the Centre for Cross Cultural Research, the National Europe Centre and the Australian National Dictionary Centre.

The RSH builds on research fostered by these Centres and seeks to promote innovative research in the Humanities. Its Visiting Fellowship program is an enhancement of the program offered by the HRC since the 1970s and provides funds to support scholars to work in the Research School. Applications are particularly welcome from scholars with interests in one or more of the RSH's research platforms and especially from those whose current projects relate to the RSH 2009 Annual Theme of 'Cosmopolitanisms'. Applications for fellowships to the Freilich Foundation to work in the area of bigotry and tolerance are also welcomed.

The key research platforms of the RSH include: Biography and Society Visual Culture Museums and Collections Public Memory and Historical Re-enactment Creativity and Human Rights Interdisciplinary Cross Cultural Studies European Studies Literature, Linguistics and Lexicography E-Humanities. Applications are now open and guidelines, application and referees forms can be downloaded the RSH website: http://rsh.anu.edu.au/
Recent changes in the Australian industrial relations system have served to increase concern about wages and conditions of those at the lower end of the labour market, with some commentators forecasting substantial increases in the number of working poor. However, even prior to these changes, there was evidence that the proportion of Australians that could be classified as working and poor was increasing. A further concern is the possibility that for many of these workers low-paid employment does not act as a stepping stone to better pay and conditions: instead they remain in jobs with little scope for advancement or skill development. Such marginalisation is a significant barrier to developing a competitive knowledge based economy and also imposes substantial costs on governments.

The Low Paid Work in Australia symposium will explore the realities of low-paid work in Australian, including the links between low wages, poverty and exclusion and the mobility of low wage workers. It will also canvass policy options to reduce potential negative impacts of low-paid work.

Speakers include Iain Campbell, Centre for Applied Social Research, RMIT University, John Howe, Centre for Employment & Labour Relations Law, University of Melbourne, and Barbara Pocock, Director, Centre for Work and Life, University of South Australia.

‘The Real Dirt on Farmer John’

Cinema Nova & Gil Scrine Films, in association with Slow Food Melbourne, present Sherry Strong—chef, nutritionist, food & wellbeing expert, author, award winning speaker, documentary film maker and wellbeing consultant to youth organizations like Fifteen and Reach Foundation—and film star Farmer John Peterson in discussion for the Melbourne premiere of ‘The Real Dirt on Farmer John.’

‘The Real Dirt on Farmer John’ is a multiple award-winning film, including the Sundance Audience Award and the Grand Jury Award, San Francisco. The film is directed by Taggart Siegel, who made the film in a most unusual way—shooting farmer John Peterson over the twenty five years of their evolving friendship, and using multiple media, allowing him to capture his alternately humorous, heartbreaking and spirited life with raw drama and intimacy. Along the way, Siegel charts Farmer John’s astonishing journey from farm boy to counter-culture rebel to the son who almost lost the family farm to a beacon of today’s booming organic farming movement. The result is a tale that ebbs and flows with the fortunes of the soil and revealingly mirrors the changing American times.
Climate Change and Human Health Conference

Climate change is a major issue facing Australia and the world. The human and social impacts of this change are only just beginning to be recognised. Human adaptation to these changes needs to be quickly advanced if particular at-risk groups are not to be significantly disadvantaged in the future. Although much has been said about the physical changes to climate that can be expected our understanding of the human health and social impacts is still very limited. This conference aims to explore current knowledge about these human health and social impacts, provide information about state of the art practice from Australia and overseas and identify the immediate and longer term priorities for the health and human services sector in Australia.

Conference themes
- Human health and social impacts of climate change
- Reducing morbidity and mortality from the impacts of climate change
- Planning for increased numbers of heatwaves
- Mental health
- Aged care
- Infant and child wellbeing
- Managing people with existing illnesses or conditions
- Emergency management
- Water
- Communicable diseases
- Drought

Tuesday 16 and Wednesday 17 October
Park Hyatt, Melbourne
Fees: $350/$175 student (two days), $175/$95 student (one day)
Registration form and information: www.healthclimate2007.com

EcoEDGE 2 – 2008:
The Urgent Design Challenge in Building Sustainable Cities

The EcoEDGE 2 conference will engage the world’s leading sustainability experts in tackling the economic, aesthetic and ethical dimensions in making sustainable cities. Topics include green urban design; green urban energy systems; green housing; and green government.

Through specific local and international case studies, the CityEDGE series provide a forum for architects, landscape architects, urban designers and planners to review the rapid and radical development of contemporary metropolises.

14–16 February 2008
Federation Square, Melbourne
For more information: ecoedge2@melbourne.vic.gov.au
Website: www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/ecoedge2

INTERNATIONAL

World Universities Forum

The World Universities Forum was created in the belief that academe must better engage today’s most crucial questions, and that higher education itself must be included as part of the wider discussion of global change.

The Forum encourages the participation of university executives, administrators, scholars and research students, as well as journalists, policy makers, business and political leaders, and others who understand that the importance of the university extends well beyond campus.

All presenters may choose to submit written papers for publication in the fully refereed Journal of the World Universities Forum. If you are unable to attend the Forum in person, virtual registrations are also available which allow you to submit a paper for review and possible publication in the Journal, and provide access to the online edition of the Journal.

Call for papers
Submit online at: http://universitiesforum.com
Deadline 13 October

31 January to 2 February 2008
Davos, Switzerland
Website: http://universitiesforum.com

To submit details of your event or to update your details please email globalism@rmit.edu.au. If you do not wish to receive a copy of the Globalism Institute Bulletin please email globalism@rmit.edu.au with the word ‘Unsubscribe’ in the subject field.