

The SoSS Goss

Issue 15

Jan/Feb/March 2011

Message from the Head of School

Congratulations to....



Rae Dufty and Tim Jones who married on December 4th at St Augustine's Anglican Church, Merewether

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This is my first SoSS Goss column as Head of School. I have been appointed for a five year term, starting April 1st 2011 (no, it wasn't an April Fool's Day joke!). I am in a fortunate position as new Head of School. The School of Social Sciences been a through a successful series of curriculum reforms and a range of staff appointments, with more to come. New sub-committee structures were established, and those Committees are being enlivened this month. The School is in a strong position for the upcoming AUQA audit (May 9-12). All staff can take pride in these achievements.

I have already flagged that I am committed to lifting the research ranking of the School's key disciplines. We must lift the research esteem of three of our key disciplines to 'World Standard': Criminology (1602); Social Work (1607); Sociology (1608). I will be

seeking advice on how we should plan in regards to those other discipline groups in the School that are not so clearly 'present' within FOR codes of ERA. Our research is strong and getting stronger. For example, this issue of the SoSS Goss once again provides an excellent glimpse into the scholarly activity of SoSS staff. There are some very exciting projects in this School, some of them pursued by individuals and some jointly.

In taking on the role of Head of School I am indebted to the recent excellent leadership of Mary Hawkins. Mary has gotten us into a great position for the up-coming AUQA audit, and she has applied the new-broom UWS workload allocation process with great skill. She has made other strong contributions, as did Stephen Tomsen. Our well developed Professional

Staffing systems are a credit to our School Managers (Melissa Maucourt; Lisa Tudehope; Iwan Howel and Diana Curuenavuli). The people above have contributed in other ways, as have all the staff in the school. This great work, and the sustainability that it has generated, is enabling me to focus my strategic efforts.

Finally, I would like to welcome the new staff, including our three new lecturers Anca Stanculescu, Irena Veljanova and Helena Onnudottir. It is fantastic to be adding to our staffing profile. Can I ask you all to think about how you can help with the attraction of quality applicants for the five positions that were recently advertised. Shake those trees!

Kevin Dunn
Head of School

Planning graduate receives award

Planning graduate Nazia Pokar received an award from the Planning Institute of Australia on Nov. 3, 2010. Nazia works for the Mosmon Council as a strategic planner. The award was for "Mosman LEP 2010 (The bespoke consultation of a Standard LEP)" in which the community took advantage of the range of communication tools. The bespoke consultation allowed for flexibility and throughout the project



Council's planners had to adapt existing and learn new skills in film making; blog moderation; website

creation and content preparation. Nazia is pictured with Awais Piracha after receiving the award.

School hosts UK visitors

The School hosted two visitors from the University of Newcastle (UK). **Drs Helen Jarvis** and **Peter Hopkins'** visits were both funded by successful IRIS grants that the School won in 2010.

While at UWS our visitors received great news regarding their promotion applications. Both have been promoted to Reader, which is alike to our status of Associate Professor.

Congratulations to both Peter and Helen.

Both of our Newcastle visitors left UWS early April heading for AAG and then home to the UK.



Dr Steve Watson, York St John University, UK visited UWS from 21st — 31st March sending time in CCR and Social Sciences.

Steve is co-editor with Russell Staiff and Robyn Bushell on a new book '*Heritage Places and Tourists in Dialogue*' (working title only) in the KEY ISSUES IN CULTURAL HERITAGE series, edited by Prof Bill Logan (Deakin Uni) and Prof Laurajane Smith (ANU). A number of other CCR and School people are also involved in the book, including Emma Waterton, Tim Winter, Fiona Cameron and Juan Salazar, as well as Russell and Robyn.

During his stay Steve was involved in a tourism and heritage workshop involving Bill and Laurajane, Dr Denis Byrne, Head of Heritage Division, DECCW and others preparing chapters for the book.

On Thursday 31st March Steve presented a seminar at CCR:

The Spanish Imaginary in British Travel Writing since the Second World War



School Seminars

The next school seminar will be held on Tuesday 19th April.

The Travails of Postcolonialism, Postmodernism and Ethics

Dr. Morny Joy, Department of Religious Studies

University of Calgary, Canada

Dr. MORN Y JOY is Professor in the Dept of Religious Studies at the University of Calgary, Canada. She works and has published in the areas of philosophy and religion, postcolonialism and intercultural studies in South and South-East Asia, as well as in many diverse aspects of women and religion.

2011 Seminar Series

Location/Time:

School meeting rooms via video link

Bankstown (1.1.30)
Kingswood (PG26)

1st Monday of each month
from 1 - 2.30 pm

Contacts:

Prof Stephen Tomsen
(Convenor)
s.tomsen@uws.edu.au

RSVP Kerry Wyburd
k.wyburd@uws.edu.au

Grants

Congratulations to the Kevin, Rae and Adam on their grant success.

Project title: Ethnic discrimination in the private rental housing market

Dunn, Macdonald, Paradies & Dufty
Australian Research Council,
Discovery Project, 2011-14,
Funding: \$442,000.

Project title: Islam, youth, masculinities and place: international perspectives

Dunn, Possamai, Hopkins
International Research Initiatives
Scheme, UWS, 2012,
Funding: \$7,500

Challenging Racism Project findings launch

The results of 12 years of research by the 'Challenging Racism Project' were released on Wednesday 23rd February, providing a national picture of racism, ethnic relations and cultural diversity in Australia.

Media interest has been strong with the new look website attracting over 9000 hits on the day of release.



Report from the UWS Office of Public Affairs

Since the media launch of the Challenging Racism Project findings on Wednesday 23rd February 2011, the UWS Media Unit has been inundated with interview requests

and enquiries about the Project. In total, the Media Unit has so far logged 43 individual journalist requests for information or interviews – of these requests, Professor Kevin Dunn has himself participated in more than 25 media interviews.

Highlights of this important and prominent media coverage include print mentions in *The Age*, *The Herald Sun*, *Canberra Times* and *Hobart Mercury*; online mentions on *Crikey*, *Sydney Morning Herald online*, *New Zealand Herald online* and *Albuquerque Express online*; television mentions on *Lateline*, the 7pm *ABC News* in Sydney, Canberra and Darwin, and *SBS*



World News Australia; and radio mentions on *SBS Ethnic Radio*, *ABC 702 Sydney 'Mornings'* program with Deborah Cameron, *ABC 666 Canberra 'Morning'* and 'Drive programs, *Melbourne Talk Radio 'Breakfast'* program with Steve Price and 'Mornings' program with Steve Vizard, *2UE Sydney 'Mornings'* program with David Oldfield and *Radio Adelaide's 'The Wire'* program.

Danielle Roddick
Senior Media Officer,
Office of Public Affairs,

Papers and publications

Papers delivered

Dunn, Kevin M. (2010) "Transnational identity, affiliations and citizenship in Australia: Comparing four immigrant groups", International Symposium on Comparative Multiculturalism from Transnational and Global Perspectives (Deakin University, Burwood Campus), 25 – 26 November.

Dunn, Kevin M. & Nelson, J. (2010) "Variations in the Acknowledgement and Denial of Racism in Australia", A New Era in Australian Multiculturalism? (The State Library of Victoria), 19 – 20 November.

Dunn, Kevin M. (2010) "Local approaches to everyday racism", Australia and New Zealand Race Relations Roundtable Meeting: Panel discussion. A national plan to address racism (CO29) (ACT Human Rights Commission Canberra), 10 November.

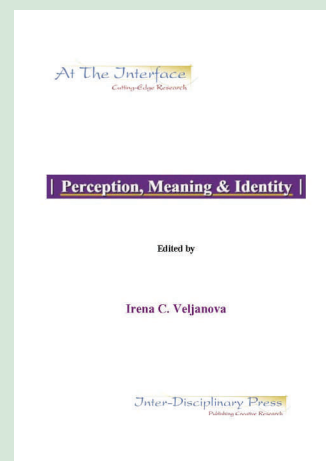
Dunn (2010) "Attitudes About and Awareness of Human Rights in Australia", International Conference on Human Rights Education, (UWS Parramatta) 4 - 6 Nov.

Publications

Catibog-Sinha, C. S. (2010). Biodiversity conservation and sustainable tourism: Philippine initiatives. *Journal of Heritage Tourism*, 5 (4), 297 -309.

Corazon Catibog-Sinha., C. (2010). Zoo tourism and the conservation of threatened species: A collaborative program in the Philippines. In W.Frost (Ed.), *Zoos and tourism: Conservation, education, entertainment?* (Chapter 2, pp.13-32). Bristol, UK: Channel View Publication.

Veljanova, I.C (ed.) 2010, Perception, Meaning and Identity, Inter-Disciplinary Press, Oxfordshire, UK. ISBN: 978-1-84888-042-9.



PIA and UWS student welcome

The Inaugural Student Welcome for all students enrolled in the Bachelor of Social Science (Geography and Urban Studies) and Master of Urban Management and Planning programs was held on Monday 28th Feb.

The student welcome commenced with a brief presentation by a Planning Institute of Australia NSW

Young Planners Committee representative on the benefits of PIA membership and upcoming PIA NSW Young Planners events in 2011. All students received a PIA NSW information pack on the night.

Young planning professionals were available to answer career questions.

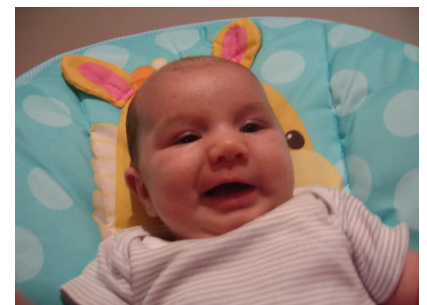


PIA awards



GUS staff shared a UWS table with the Urban Research Centre, at the Planning Institute of Australia NSW Awards Gala Dinner, on Wed 3rd November. UWS graduates were once again among the prize winners (see next issue of SoSS GOSS for details). The prizes were awarded at Doltone House, Darling Island Wharf.

Congratulations to....



Bianca and Stuart Humphreys on the safe arrival of Madeline born Friday 4th February 2011.

News from Social Work @ UWS

Congratulations to Natalie Bolzan who has been appointed the inaugural Margaret Whitlam Chair of Social Work

A successful **Field Educators workshop** was held in January to assist new and returning Field Educators to meet the staff of the UWS Field Education unit and take part in a morning of being introduced to the resources available within the University. Field Educators from across the human services sector were given the latest recommended readings, a briefing about the academic content already covered by the student's course, an understanding of the expectations of the university as well as that of the students. The workshop concluded with participants clear about the level of support and appreciation available for Field Educators offering to guide the learning experience of the next generation of Social Workers. The next UWS Field Educators Workshop will be held in June 2011. All welcome to attend, simply email: soSS_field@uws.edu.au to be included in the pre-workshop advice.

Social Work @ UWS, amongst other universities, has taken part in several initiatives to map and plan towards having high quality, critically reflective, resourceful and flexible graduates "workforce-ready". The production of an ALTC funded on-line supervisors training module with the scope to be offered within a professional development workshop, small team peer training or private study. This collaborative project team was headed by CSU with representation in some form by Social Work programs from every state of Australia.

Social Work @UWS - and several other universities from rural, regional and city areas - have recently been advised by Health Workforce Australia of successful bids to develop and put in place strategies to meet a demand for an increase in the number of

student training places offered within health services. Consultation with Field Educators in that sector is "Step #1":

Current Social work @ UWS research projects.

Natalie Bolzan and Fran Gale are part of a successful funding bid for a Cooperative Research Centre on Young People, Technology and Wellbeing (CRC-YPTWB) which is lead by the 'Inspire Foundation' in collaboration with NGOs and community organisations, commercial and government partners and will contribute to work on young people's engagement with technology to promote wellbeing and to address challenges of poor youth mental health. Their conviction is that technology can be a positive contributor to the lives of all young people. It can also help to bridge social and economic divides and creatively engage young people most at risk.

The Centre will develop tech-savvy tools to support the wellbeing of our young Australians. It will address the ways in which ICT can be used to benefit young people in general in the population. It will also consider differential effects on various segments of the youth population according to gender, age, geography and a range of other demographic and sub-cultural characteristics

Natalie and Fran will be involved in Program 2, led by Dr Amanda Third, which will generate baseline data about how vulnerable young people integrate existing technologies into their everyday lives. Program themes will focus on developing and trialling: applications and tools to address vulnerable young people's specific needs; strategies for increasing community understanding and inter-generational dialogue around the needs of vulnerable young people; and, web 2.0 functionality to harness vulnerable young people's creativity and develop effective strategies for social inclusion. The CRC-YPTWB directly supports the Federal government's National Strategy for Young Australians, which aims to enable all young people to grow up safe, healthy, happy and resilient (COAG, 2009). If you would like more information on this research please

email: fw.gale@uws.edu.au or n.bolzan@uws.edu.au

Another exciting initiative is Dr Neil Hall's involvement with other Homelessness-experienced UWS research staff in the partnering with 4 Western Sydney Councils to explore vulnerabilities relating to homelessness in suburban/regional/urban fringe areas.

The homelessness focus is slightly different in each of the LGAs responding to the history and outcomes sought in each local government area: Blue Mountains, Penrith, Blacktown and Hawkesbury want something different! If you would like further information about this research please email: n.hall@uws.edu.au

Natalie Bolzan and Jan Falloon facilitated a Childwatch Asia Pacific Study Group 2011 meeting hosted by the Tata Institute of Social Sciences in Mumbai, India in February. The thematic focus of the meeting is "Exploring child to child violence and its socio-cultural contexts in some countries in the Asia Pacific region through diverse research methods". This initiative reflects a key component of the work of Emeritus Professor Jan Mason, Professor Natalie Bolzan and Jan Falloon over many years. If you have any enquiries about the outcomes of this Study Group please email Natalie: n.bolzan@uws.edu.au

The conjoint appointment of the Associate Fellow in Community Development with Housing NSW and UWS advertised late last year In SWFT is 'in progress'. When the appointment is confirmed, the position holder will offer social work supervised placements to students in the Mt Druitt Building Stronger Communities program. The students benefitting from this experience, over the next 3 years, will have developed a critical understanding and capacity to work with communities and their members that actively supports the achievement of meaningful outcomes as defined by those communities.

Travel

Staff:

Corazon Sinha – travelled to Manila, Philippines from 23 January – 14 February where she was invited to meet with research staff of the Asian Institute of Management @ University of the Philippines to discuss tourism research topics to be explored for possible joint research. Corazon also visited Mt Makiling Forest Reserve as part of her case study.

Poll Thee - travelled to Adelaide from 7-12 February to present a refereed paper at the CAUTHE Conference, which will lead to an ARC application.

Natalie Bolzan – travelled to Melbourne from 9-13 February to represent the School of Social Sciences at the council of Heads of Schools of Social Work.

Jan Falloon – travelled to Mumbai, India from 15-22 February to attend the Childwatch International meeting of the Australasia/Pacific Research Group to plan the research agenda for the next three years on child-to-child violence. The meeting also provided opportunities to make & strengthen links with academics in research institutions in the region.

Natalie Bolzan – travelled to Mumbai, India from 15-22 February to attend the Childwatch International meeting of the Australasia/Pacific Research Group to plan the research agenda for the next three years on child-to-child violence. The meeting also provided opportunities to make & strengthen links with academics in research institutions in the region.

Laura Schatz on 10 February attended a workshop at the Planning Institute of Australia on public participation in planning in Sydney

Erin Kruger – travelled to the United Kingdom from 23-29 March to present a paper at a conference created & supported by Institute for Science, Innovation & Science (InSIS) and the University of Oxford.

Jane Mears – will be travelling from 7 April to 26 April for research and

writing in Sweden, then will be presenting at the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics conference in Bologna.

Robyn Bushell – will be travelling to Canberra on 14-15 April to attend a planning meeting for the 2012 World Conservation Congress at which Robyn will be convening the Tourism component.

Alpha Possamai-Inesedy – will be travelling to France and Brussels from 13 June to 4 July to present at the 31st ISSR Conference held by International Society for the Sociology of Religion and the Socete Internationale de Sociologie des Religions, as well as attend meetings regarding my research.

Russell Staiff – will be travelling Thailand and Malaysia from 24 June to 10 July to present at the Malacca International Heritage Conference relating to the field work carried out in Luang Prabang, Laos, by both Russell, and Robyn Bushell, as well as to participate in a series of seminars and workshops on Heritage Interpretation for Tourists at Silpakorn University in Bangkok.



HDR Students:

Brigid Trenerry – travelled to Canberra from 10-14 January to undertake an ASCPRI course on Data Analysis using Stata, as Stata is required for her data analysis in her PhD

Jacqueline Nelson – travelled to Adelaide from 5-8 March for field work undertaking qualitative interviews for the Challenging Racism project.

Zareen Shahid – has travelled to Lahore, Pakistan from 24 January to 5 June, during which time will be carrying out surveys and interviews with local officials as part of her PhD research.

Newsletter articles

Thank you for your contributions.

If you would like something to be included in the next issue of the SoSS Goss, or have any comments or questions please contact Kathie Hill ka.hill@uws.edu.au

