Pedagogy of the Flesh: An installation

In the form of an installation, this panel will question the problems of combining the fleshiness of our bodies and the technologies of (re-)presentation in the production of knowledge that is contemporary teaching in a material environment. Do the aesthetics and methods of the performing arts open up new, dynamic approaches towards teaching practices? Conversely, how do traditional approaches to classroom management and learning undermine the performativity of our disciplinary concerns?

We wish to challenge in the strongest possible terms the appropriateness of the traditional format for academic conferences with their monologic presentation of research outcomes.

We crave new and unimagined formats for conferences that rely upon the very theatrical devices that we study, master, enact, and live through. This installation will express each participant’s response to these provocations and will provide an interactive environment with many dialogic elements. Participants will use video images, live performers, and other theatrical devices to create an installation that deconstructs the experience of teaching. Signalling though the flames, should our teaching be any less?

The organisers of this panel—Janys Hayes (University of Wollongong), Glen D’cruz (Deakin University), Andrew Filmer (University of Sydney), Jenny Leong (University of Sydney) and Jerry Jaffe (Otago University)—are preparing an installation, to be accompanied by a dialogue and interrogation.

They welcome your contributions, which may take the form of joining the organisers in the conception and realization of the proposed installation, and/or participation in the panel session.

To be involved, please contact

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